



# SPEECHES

delivered by

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble

Thomas David Baron Carmichael of Skirling,

G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G.,

GOVERNOR OF BENGAL,

during

1916-17.



## INDEX TO SPEECHES.

	1916.	PAGE.
1. Speech at the Bengal Legislative Council ...	4th April ...	1—4
2. Opening of New Building of the Calcutta University Institute ...	6th „ ...	5, 6
3. Meeting of the Legislative (Reconstituted) Council ...	4th July ...	7—9
4. Opening Ceremony of the Belgachia Medical College ...	5th „ ...	10—12
5. Police Parade, Dacca ...	20th „ ...	13, 14
6. Opening of the Chittagong Waterworks ...	24th „ ...	15, 16
7. Reply to the Address at Chittagong ...	26th „ ...	17, 18
8. Prize Distribution at the Engineering School, Dacca ...	5th August ...	19, 20
9. Speech at the Dacca Legislative Council ...	7th „ ...	21—23
10. Prize Distribution at the Dacca Medical School ...	9th „ ...	24, 25
11. Opening of the Central Bank, the Pestonji Ward, and the laying of the Foundation-stone of the Muhammadan Hostel, Rajbari ...	21st „ ...	26—28
12. Laying of the Foundation-stone of the Dacca Muhammadan Orphanage ...	22nd „ ...	29
13. Industrial Exhibition, Dacca ...	22nd „ ...	30, 31
14. Durbār in Dacca ...	23rd „ ...	32—40
15. Dacca Ramkrishna Mission ...	24th „ ...	41
16. Prize Distribution at the Sutrapur Tōl, Dacca ...	24th „ ...	42
17. Reply to the Address at Bhattapur ...	28th „ ...	43, 44
18. Send-off to the Bengali Regiment ...	6th September ...	45, 46
19. Arts and Crafts Exhibition, Darjeeling ...	25th „ ...	47
20. Prize Distribution at St. Paul's School, Darjeeling ...	20th October ...	48
21. Reply to the Address by the Commissioners of the Darjeeling Municipality ...	31st „ ...	49—51
22. Reply to the Address by the Anjuman-i-Islamia at Darjeeling ...	31st „ ...	52, 53
23. Opening of the Hart Cottage, St. Andrew's Colonial Homes, Kalimpong ...	8th November ...	54—56
24. Laying of the Foundation-stone of the Carmichael College, Rangpur ...	10th „ ...	57—59
25. Opening of the Industrial Exhibition, Rangpur ...	10th „ ...	60, 61
26. Laying the Foundation-stone of the Varendra Research Society Building, Rampur Boalia ...	13th „ ...	62, 63
27. Laying the Foundation-stone of a M. E. School at Sardah ...	14th „ ...	64
28. Opening of the Sardah Police College Hospital ...	14th „ ...	65
29. Sardah Police Training School ...	14th „ ...	66—69



	1916.	PAGE.
30. Opening of the Duff Girls' School, Boloram Ghose's Street ... ..	15th November ...	70, 71
31. Laying the Foundation-stone of Romesh Chandra Datta Memorial Block in the Sahitya Parishad Building ... ..	20th „ ...	72, 73
32. Speech at the Dalhousie Institute re: Scottish Women's Hospitals ... ..	30th „ ...	74, 75
33. Departure of the Calcutta Motor Machine Gun Battery ... ..	6th December ...	76
34. Recipients of <i>Sanads</i> at the Darbar at Government House, Calcutta ... ..	11th „ ...	77, 78
35. Durbar in Government House, Calcutta	11th „ ...	79—86
36. Speech at the Legislative Council ... ..	12th „ ...	87, 88
	1917.	
37. Australian Dinner ... ..	3rd January ...	89—93
38. Prize Distribution of the Dacca College	26th „ ...	94—99
39. Opening of the H. E. School at Mirpur	27th „ ...	100
40. Opening of the Bangsal Maktab, Dacca	29th „ ...	101
41. Distribution of Rewards to Panchayats at Dacca ... ..	29th „ ...	102
42. Address in Bengali at the East Bengal Saraswat Samaj, Dacca ... ..	29th „ ...	103
43. Eastern Bengal Volunteer Rifles ... ..	30th „ ...	104
44. Reply to Farewell Address at Dacca ... ..	31st „ ...	105, 106
45. Meeting of the Bengal Home Industries Association ... ..	1st February ...	107, 108
46. Opening of the Co-operative Conference	1st „ ...	109—111
47. Prize Distribution at the Hastings House School ... ..	20th „ ...	112, 113
48. Unveiling of the Portrait of late Dr. Surja Kumar Sarbadhikari at Senate House ... ..	27th „ ...	114—116
49. Annual Meeting, Kalimpong Homes, at Young Men's Christian Association Hall, Calcutta ... ..	28th „ ...	117, 118
50. Reply to the Address presented by the Indian Society of Oriental Art ... ..	5th March ...	119
51. Miniature Rifle Association Meeting ... ..	6th „ ...	120
52. War Loan Meeting at the Town Hall ... ..	7th „ ...	121—123
53. Speech in Bengali at the Sanskrit Convocation ... ..	8th „ ...	124
54. Calcutta Corporation Dinner ... ..	10th „ ...	125—129
55. Speech at the Bengal Legislative Council	14th „ ...	130—135
56. Reply to the British Indian Association's Address ... ..	17th „ ...	136—138
57. Reply to the Central National Muhammadan Association's Address ... ..	17th „ ...	139, 140
58. Reply to the Marwari Association's Address ... ..	17th „ ...	141
59. Reply to the Bengal Landholders' Association's Address ... ..	17th „ ...	142, 143
60. Reply to the Bengal Presidency Moslem League's Address ... ..	17th „ ...	144, 145

## **HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECHES FOR THE YEAR 1916-17.**

### ***His Excellency's Speech at the Bengal Legislative Council, on 4th April 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

Your labours are now ended, but before bringing Council to a close, I must ask you to bear with me, while in accordance with custom I say a few words.

This is probably the last time that we shall be sitting together in this room in Council as at present constituted, for unless something unforeseen happens, I shall not summon my Legislative Council to meet again until after its Additional Members have gone out of office and an election has to some extent at least altered our membership.

Before I say anything else, I feel sure you will like me to refer to events which are happening to-day in which we and everyone else in India are interested. His Excellency Lord Hardinge is to-day finishing and His Excellency Lord Chelmsford is to-day beginning each his term of office as Viceroy. To both our best wishes go forth. We recognize, I feel sure, the courage and high sense of duty which Lord Hardinge has shown in the face of trials and sufferings such as few men are called on to bear, and which would have completely overpowered most men. He has worked hard for India; he has given to her of his best; no one can deny that he has affected the course of Indian events and has stirred Indian opinion. We, in Bengal, have been affected as much as any one by his actions, we have criticized him as freely as people ever criticized any one, but we recognize his singleness of aim, admire his courage and undoubtedly, I hope, we wish him every happiness in future; I feel sure, too, that we are ready to give to Lord Chelmsford a hearty welcome, feeling confident that he, too, will give to India his best, and trusting that during his term of office he may strengthen the bonds which unite India to the Empire for which in the past in different parts of the world both Lord Hardinge and Lord Chelmsford have worked so hard.

And now I thank you all most sincerely for the help you have given me ever since January 1913 when we began to work together. You have helped me to pass 16 Acts and one Bill which is now with the Viceroy and which will become an Act as soon as it receives his assent. And I specially thank my non-official colleagues; you have shown much zeal, among you you have asked 736 questions. Your laudable desire for information was of real advantage to Government. It gave us an opportunity, which we might otherwise not have had, of letting the public know what we have been doing in what we believe to be the public interest. You brought forward 76 resolutions. You were sufficiently satisfied with the attitude of Government to withdraw 48 of these without going to a vote; no fewer than 18 of your resolutions were accepted either in their original form or with some modification. Ten only were rejected when pressed to a division,—no bad record this, I think, for the non-official Members of any legislative body. Twenty-seven of you, on an average out of 34, have been present at each

meeting of Council. I know some assemblies where the whips would have an easier task, if Members everywhere were as willing as you are to be regular in their attendance.

All this augurs well for the future of Council Government. Council Government can only be successful as those who advocated it hope, if the elected Members take a real interest in their work, and if the electors also are interested and try to secure good representation.

We in this Council have been affected in many ways by the war. I do not merely mean that I have not been able, owing to the curtailment of funds, to ask your assistance in projects which I had hoped you might help in; I am thinking even more of the loyal and unselfish way in which you have refrained from the discussion of controversial subjects and have even been willing to abstain from united complaint at delay in reforms which I know you most keenly desire. I thank you for that, and I trust that some day when money is once more available, you will find that Government is sincere in what its Members have said to you; that for instance we are genuinely sorry that we cannot just now do far more than we propose to do for education, for sanitation, in combating the terrible scourge of malaria, in bringing the Dacca University scheme into being, or in increasing facilities for medical education and for technical training.

There is one matter about which I regret to say it has been my duty to speak to you more than once before and about which I must speak again. The crime usually spoken of as political crime,—that form of crime which though it is not confined solely to Bengal, is more common here than elsewhere. On the 7th of April last year I reminded you of the Defence of India Act which the Government of India had just passed, partly with the avowed intention of meeting the situation in Bengal. I reminded you of what had been said on behalf of the Government of India, and I told you that my colleagues and I had honour of Bengal at heart, and that for the sake of Bengal we should not shrink from using the Act, wherever we thought fit. Gentlemen, what has happened since then? There have been 26 fresh dacoities, four of them accompanied by murder. No fewer than 18 persons have been murdered—five of them being Indian officers murdered in the execution of their duty and three others Indians who were giving assistance to Government.

And this is not all; it has been brought to the knowledge of Government in a way which Government feels makes it certain that some persons in Bengal have got into touch with and taken pay from or have tried to get into touch with and take pay from the enemies of our Emperor and of our country—I mean with foreign enemies belonging to the countries with whom we are at war; that other persons in Bengal have been ready to tamper with the loyalty of the King-Emperor's Indian troops—those troops of whose loyalty and of whose bravery Indians and Englishmen alike have every right to be proud; and that yet other persons in Bengal have been planning or considering how to plan crimes which would at any time be hurtful to the public weal, but which at a time like this are doubly hurtful. So far we have not been able to produce—I wish we could—exact evidence to bring home

their guilt beyond a shadow of doubt to the individuals who committed those crimes. But we have evidence which goes a long way towards it. There are different degrees of guilt: some men are, no doubt, mere dupes, sometimes, perhaps, unconscious dupes in the hands of more astute criminals, who are clever enough to conceal themselves, and cowardly enough to use others to commit overt acts which render their doers, if they are caught, liable to severe punishment, while they themselves avoid doing anything which can be seen and merely plot in a way which may be skillfully interpreted as bearing some other meaning. I am sorry for these dupes, but they are a source of danger,—though not so great a source of danger as those who exploit them. It is the duty of Government to use the powers which it possesses against any danger to the State. That, gentlemen, is my duty and the duty of my colleagues, a duty which we are doing our best to fulfill. It is also my duty and the duty of my colleagues to see that the liberty of those for whose governance we are responsible is not interfered with unjustly and that duty, too, we have done our best to discharge.

Two hundred and eighteen persons in all have up to now been dealt with in Bengal under the Defence of India Act. Ten of these are Uraons—aboriginals of a not very advanced type, whose crime seems to me more due to ignorance and the primitive nature of their beliefs than to anything else and whom I am glad to think we can, owing to our being able to use this Act, deal with in a spirit of pity and as a precaution to prevent the evil which their action, if unchecked, would bring on themselves and their fellows.

In regard to the other 208 cases, orders for internment under Regulation III of 1818 have been passed against 21 persons. Four have been expelled from Bengal; and 132 have been served with orders of compulsory domicile within the Presidency. In this matter of compulsory domicile we have been as considerate towards the men served with orders as we can be, consistently with the attainment of our object of making it difficult for them to continue in conduct by which in the past they have laid themselves open to strong suspicion of having taken part in acts hostile to the welfare of the State. That accounts for 157 out of the 208 cases. The other 51 persons are at present under arrest under rule 12(a) of the Defence of India Rules. All of these have been arrested within the last four weeks and their cases are being dealt with as quickly as possible.

My colleagues and I fully recognize our responsibility. It is we and we alone who must be blamed if any mistake is made. We realize the seriousness of interfering with personal liberty without a full trial in court. But we have been deliberately given power to do this and it is our duty to use the power given to us, when we believe it is right and just to do so. We cannot for reasons of State give publicity to the grounds on which we have based our action; but I assure you that as a Government we have done nothing which I do not believe we were fully justified in doing. I go further—I say that we should have grossly failed in our duty to Bengal if we had left anything undone that we have done under the Act.

I shall mention one more point. Last year I spoke to you of the police and I told you we had taken a step which I hoped you might look on as an earnest of our determination to find a right solution for admitted difficulties. That step was the deputation of my Private Secretary, Mr. Gourlay, to make minute enquiries and collect accurate information. Mr. Gourlay did this work well and I believe we can confidently look forward to securing a better feeling before long between the police and the public. We realize even more clearly now than we did a year ago how easily harm may be done if the so-called political crime is not most carefully, but at the same time most rapidly handled. We believe the situation is grave; we hope it will become less grave; for we believe that as well as being grave it is exceptional. We recognize how much we depend on the efficiency of our Indian Police Officers. We recognize the bravery which our Indian Police Officers have shown in the face of known danger; and we are determined to do all we can to help them. We are not very successful. There is no use denying it. We are not as successful as we should like to be in discovering who commit the crimes. Take for example the 26 (so-called political) dacoities which I have referred to as taking place during the last 12 months.

There were 22 cases of dacoity without murder. In two of these cases only were we able to bring any one to trial. We brought six accused to trial, of whom five were convicted.

In the four cases of dacoity with murder there was only one case in which we were able to bring any accused into court. We brought 14 accused to trial and 11 of them were convicted.

That 16 out of 20 persons accused should be convicted does not, I think, afford any justification for saying that police evidence is bad; but that out of 26 cases of political dacoity our investigating officers should only be able to obtain enough evidence to bring three cases into court, shows that, whether it be that our criminals are too clever, or that our police are not clever enough, or that the general public are not able to help us or whatever the reason be—as a matter of fact we are not as successful as we would like to be or as I hope we yet shall be.

To help us in considering how we can best make use of the powers which we possess, especially those which we possess for the present under the Defence of India Act, and in determining generally how we can proceed with the best chance of success in dealing with political crime, we have deputed Mr. J. G. Cumming whom you all know and in whose ability and in whose uprightness and in whose sense of justice and fairplay I, and I believe all who know him, have absolute confidence—we have deputed Mr. Cumming to help our police in their dealings with political crime. For the time being at any rate there is enough work of this kind to occupy the full time of an officer even of the most capable officer. I trust our action in this will be interpreted by the public as showing that Government is dealing, as seriously as it is able to do, with the problem of removing from Bengal the blot which undoubtedly at present stains her reputation. In any case I believe it is action which will prove helpful.

Gentlemen, the Council is adjourned *sine die*

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the New Building of the Calcutta University Institute, on 6th April 1916.***

MR. LYON AND GENTLEMEN,

I am very glad it was found possible to arrange for the opening of this building before I leave Calcutta for the summer. For this we are indebted to Mr. Banerjee who has put his back into the work and completed the whole in the short space of nine months.

What I have seen of student life in Calcutta, especially outside the modern hostels, has sometimes made me think of the old adage "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and has made me long to do something to make student life more happy. I hope and believe this building may do something. No man can do his best if he never has any recreation—not recreation for the body alone—the mind, too, requires recreation. I wish we had more room for playing fields near the colleges in Calcutta—but I fear we may as well cry for the moon as for a good cricket ground anywhere near College Square: but here every possible provision is made for in-door physical recreation—and nowhere in Calcutta will you find a place more convenient for mental recreation. I trust that in a comparatively short time you will have a good modern library and that you will take in all the best books and periodicals and newspapers and so keep in touch with the greater world outside your student life. In the Imperial Library and in the Darbhanga Library you will find books which you require for research and study—here it seems to me what you want to keep before you in choosing your library is "mental recreation."

I was glad to hear Mr. Lyon mention the names of those who have helped to bring us where we are to-day. I believe it was Sir Harcourt Butler who first realized the importance of the work which was being done in the little rooms lent to the Institute through the kindness of the authorities of the Hindu School, and no doubt it was Sir Harcourt who first interested Lord Hardinge in the work. But from the time when he realized the conditions under which students in Calcutta worked, to the time he left India, Lord Hardinge took a deep personal interest in the Institution and in the provision of a building adequate to the opportunity; and even at a time when money was far from plentiful, he gave orders that provision must be made so that the progress of this building should not be interfered with.

It was Mr. Cumming who first told me of the Institution and who invited me three years ago while he was President to preside over your annual meeting. I know how much quiet unobtrusive work Mr. Cumming did for you. It was a marvel to me how much was done in the old inadequate surroundings—but the fact of the increase of the members from 730 to 2,700 in the last few years—shows how great is the opportunity of which we are only now—with the opening of the new building—able to take advantage. The silent hard self-sacrificing work of the Secretaries is known to the individual members

alone. Professor Benoyendra Nath Sen would have rejoiced to see this day had it been granted him. Professor Khagendra Nath Mitter, Professor Manmatka Nath Basu and Dewan Bahadur Hira Lal Bose—these have done much for the Institute. There are others too, but I merely mention the names of these because they are known to me. This new building means vastly increased opportunities, and these increased opportunities mean—if they are to be taken full advantage of—a great increase in the voluntary work of the Secretaries. But I have no doubt, whatever of their ability to rise to the occasion.

I wish your Institution every success. I was glad when I was privileged to lay its foundation-stone, last July. I said then that I hoped your Institute would be a powerful force in the development of Bengal as a part of one great Empire whose citizens shall do their best for their fellow citizens in every part of it. My hope is no less strong now than it was then, and I therefore have very great pleasure indeed in now declaring the building open.

MR. LYON, MR. TAGORE AND GENTLEMEN,

It was only yesterday that I heard of your wish that I should on this auspicious occasion unveil the portrait of the late Lady Hardinge which Mr. Ranendra Nath Tagore has so kindly presented to the Calcutta University Institute. I thank you for having asked me to do this.

It is most fitting that the first gift to the Institute should be one in memory of Lady Hardinge. Our late Chancellor must be gratified to know that Lady Hardinge's interest in the students whose welfare he had so constantly at heart has been commemorated in this way. The outward sign of Her Excellency's interest was typical of her—it was a gift to the Poor Students' Fund—a gift which gave your little fund a new life, so that it has gone on increasing ever since, partly through subsequent donations from the Viceroy, till it has reached a total of Rs. 8,500. The Vice-Chancellor hopes that donations will be received during the present year which will bring the total to Rs. 10,000.

Many struggling students have received much-needed help from the fund in the payment of fees or for the purchase of books. These have had reason to bless the Poor Students' Fund in the past; many more such students will, in future, I am sure, bless the name of Lady Hardinge for her generous and kindly impulse.

Good will—good will between all races and all classes—is, it seems to me, more needed than anything else here in India.

I am proud and glad to unveil a portrait of Lady Hardinge in this University Institute; for Lady Hardinge was above all things one who strove to promote good will, and University students as much as any body of men—more probably than most—can help to bring good will about.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Meeting of the Legislative Council,  
on 4th July 1916.***

[Reconstituted Council.]

GENTLEMEN,

I am glad to welcome you here. I congratulate each and all of you on having attained, in some cases for the first time, in others once more, to a position which will afford you frequent opportunities of doing good work for Bengal; and I congratulate myself, as well as you, because I believe you will make good use of those opportunities. I know from past experience how willing many of you have shown yourselves to do anything which you think will further the objects which the Legislative Council is meant to promote, and I feel sure those of you who are new to the Council will prove yourselves no less willing.

The making of long speeches, by the President at least, is not one of those objects, so I shall not say much. I believe, I am expected to say something about the modification in the membership of this Council, as compared with the last which has been brought about by the way in which I have exercised my power of nomination. I have only asked three instead of five Secretaries to Government to serve on this Council and I have not nominated the Vice-Chairman of the Port Commissioners. I quite appreciate the good work which all the Secretaries and the Vice-Chairman did in the last Council. I know their absence may sometimes, perhaps often, be of inconvenience to Government. I know how valuable to Government even a single safe vote in a division may be and I know that my action has made it more easy for the non-officials to defeat Government, whenever they wish to do so. I know all these things, and I know, too, that it will not be easy for my successor, if he should wish it, to raise the number of officials to what it was. But I made the modification deliberately. It is true that legislation will always affect the officials. It is true in any country, and especially in this country that Government officials, if they are worth their salt, must often have a correcter view than almost any other class as to the probable effect of legislation—that I grant,—but a Governor, I am glad to think, can at all times have frank advice and criticism from his officers; what he can't always get so easily is frank advice and criticism from those who look at things from an unofficial point of view. People tell me we get criticism from the public press. We do, and I am thankful for it. We cannot have too much of it—if only we have time to read it;—and if our critics take the trouble to be accurate as to facts, and, what is perhaps even more important, not to suppress any facts, they can help Government very much indeed. But newspaper editors and Government officials have this in common; they must both, if they are to perform their function well, be to a great extent collectors of voices, they must think of those whom they serve, and they must, therefore, often—though from different points of view, under-rate the importance of some point to an individual or to a group of individuals;



for this reason it seems to me, a Governor will always wish to have on his Council as many gentlemen as possible who, he believes, will not shrink from pointing out where the executive may be liable to make mistakes: and if he can in choosing those gentlemen choose men who from personal experience or interest are not likely to overlook matters to which Government may, however unintentionally, not give due weight, a Governor will be wise to choose them.

As to future legislation, I must tell you frankly that I fear that there can be little in which I shall have to ask you to help me. I hope my successor will be able to get your help in carrying out important work in that line. But in view of the policy which has been deliberately laid down for India of not dealing with controversial matters, while the war goes on, we cannot take up the matters which you probably are most interested in. As many of you know I was very anxious to see an Act passed while I was here to improve the Calcutta Corporation. I had hoped that that would have kept you pretty fully occupied during the next nine months. But such a measure must be controversial. We may possibly be able to introduce a Bill, perhaps even we may be able to refer it to a Select Committee, but there is no chance of my seeing it passed. One Bill you may rely on my doing my best to bring in and pass, though it is not ready yet, a Bill to give the control of their own small local affairs to people resident in the country districts, in a way which I believe will promote a feeling of common responsibility. Those of you who have taken the trouble to read—(and I hope many of you have done so)—the report of the Bengal District Administration Committee will know the lines on which I believe very real progress towards Self-Government may be made. I hope a Bill may soon be ready and I hope it may turn out to be sufficiently acceptable to avoid the necessity of our putting it on one side as too controversial. Of course that is not for me to determine. Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but I shall be very sorry if we cannot take a step which it seems to me will do a very great deal to help Bengal to help itself.

Now I am all but done, but unfortunately before I sit down I must refer to a matter about which I have more than once spoken in this room. The murder committed a few days ago in Calcutta has given one more proof of the courage and devotion to duty of our Bengal Police officers; but it shows us that Government have not yet succeeded in overcoming the organization which many of our people were—quite naturally and quite properly—so unwilling to believe existed, in spite of evidence and which is doing so much harm to Bengal.

Last April I told you briefly what Government were doing and of the steps which we were taking—steps which we were only able to take because of the exceptional and temporary legislation which the Government of India have passed. Fifty-one cases were then pending, there were 51 men about whom Government had not at that moment received full enough information to determine how to deal with them: two of those men were released, the other 49 were compulsorily domiciled. Up to this moment the total number of men whom Government have compulsorily domiciled, because we felt that it was our duty to the people under our charge, not to leave those men in

view of the evidence against them to go and come as they like—is 190. Those 190 men are actually in the places assigned to them; there are orders out against further 12 more men who are absconding; and the fact that they are absconding does not lead me to think that in issuing our orders we have been unduly rigorous.

In addition to this action up to the present time has been taken against 21 other men under Regulation III of 1818.

On the 4th April last I told my Council that four persons had been expelled from the province: since then three others have been expelled.

I can assure you that Government believe they have been fully justified in all they have done. We may, of course, have made mistakes in some cases, but we have interfered with the liberty of no one against whom we did not feel that there is evidence—though we admit it is not evidence which ought to lead to conviction in an ordinary court of law.

One other point I must impress on you, for a wrong impression prevails about it; it is not the case that we have dealt with these men only because we believe they have all been concerned in a German conspiracy. In many cases—in the vast majority of cases of those who are compulsorily domiciled—we do not think these men were plotting to help Germany. We have acted as the Defence of India Act empowered us to act, and we have used the power which the Government of India when passing that Act expressly said was needed in Bengal.

We shall go on using that power as long as we believe it is necessary to use it. This last week has clearly shown that the time has not yet come when we can say it is no longer necessary. Other and greater powers might have been more effective, but we have to use the powers we have got, and we shall continue to use them—not harshly I hope, but justly. I honestly believe that those powers have been of real use to us. It is my firm conviction that if we had not had them, Bengal would just now have been in a far worse plight than she is.

But we must not forget that the powers which we can exercise now are only temporary, and we must remember that the disaffection which led to crime existed before the war, and may continue to exist long after the war ends. Government must face facts. Government must aim at removing, where they can, the disaffection; that is the most important thing, and it is in that that I particularly hope my successor, if not I myself, will get very great help from you, the Members of Council; but Government must aim too at putting down with a firm hand if need be—the crime, one of whose worst features is that it makes it harder for us to do some things which I hope may yet go far to remove the disaffection.

How far the powers, permanent or temporary, which we have meet our needs we are gradually learning. It is one of the plainest duties of Government to consider this, and I can promise you that if Government believe they ought to have greater powers than they have, they will try to get them, and I can promise you that meantime we shall go on making the best use we can of the powers we have.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Opening Ceremony of the Belgachia Medical College, on 5th July 1916.***

DR. BANARJI, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am very glad indeed to be present at this inauguration ceremony of the Belgachia Medical College. This ceremony represents a great advance in the efforts which the Committee have been making during the last four years to meet a much felt want by providing a second Medical College in Bengal—and at the same time to achieve a great object—the improvement of the status of the independent medical profession in Bengal. There is no branch of social and philanthropic work which has received more attention during the last century than the alleviation of human suffering, and there is no branch of knowledge I think in which greater progress has been made. In England, practically every village has its doctor, and one of the first questions which people consider when they are taking up their abode in a new part of the country concerns the proximity of a competent medical practitioner. Here, in India, we are far from this state of affairs. I have often heard it said that not one quarter of the people of India live within the possibility of obtaining the benefits of modern medical and surgical science, and judging from what Dr. Banarji says of Bengal I fear even that is far too sanguine an estimate. From my own experience I know that the number of inhabitants of Bengal, to whom the benefits of modern medical and surgical science are unknown, is very very great. When Government in 1822 founded the institution which subsequently became the Calcutta Medical College—its object was to supply a knowledge of medical science and skill in surgery for the benefit of its own servants, civil and military. The territories administered by the East India Company had greatly extended, and the army was broken into detachments each of which required a doctor: while at the same time, through the closing of the large military hospitals in the mufassal, the training ground for the Indian doctors had been greatly curtailed. To meet this need Government, in its own interests, founded what was then called “The School of Native Doctors.” After a period of half a century the Campbell School was founded and schools were also organized in Patna, Cuttack and Dacca. Now after the lapse of close upon a century there is but one Medical College, but two official medical schools in Bengal (as at present constituted). The delay in the spread of medical education has not been due to any want of demand on the part of the public. For many years the number of applicants for a thorough medical education has far exceeded the opportunities which are given them to obtain it. Last year no less than 725 students (of whom all but 26 possessed qualifications *higher* than the University Matriculation Examination) applied for admission to the Medical College, but the number of vacancies was only 137. Again last year at the Campbell School there were 530 applicants for admission, but only 122 vacancies. These figures show a great demand—not for a smattering of modern medical learning—but for a thorough training.

It seems to me that comparatively little has been done to meet this demand, and I have often wondered whether more could not be done. The demand has led—not unnaturally—to the rise of many private medical schools and these again not unnaturally, through want of funds and absence of adequate opportunities have not been able to give an education which could compare with the Government Medical College. The oldest and the most notable of these institutions is the Calcutta Medical School—the nucleus of the institution to honour which we are come here to-day.

Sir Pardey Lukis, who has always had the best interests of his profession at heart, tried hard to induce all the unaided medical schools to amalgamate and so form a second good Medical College for Calcutta, but his laudable endeavours failed: nor do I think under the circumstances it was possible for them to succeed. For, if the amalgamation was to succeed, it presupposed an amalgamation of capital as well as of effort, and the capital possessed by some of the schools at least was negligible: they existed on the fee income of the students. But Sir Pardey's efforts have not been altogether without good fruit. When the efforts at amalgamation failed, "The Calcutta Medical School and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Bengal" came forward with a proposal to Government and the ceremony which we perform to-day represents the first instalment of the successful outcome of this proposal. Dr. Banarji, the Hon'ble Dr. Nil Ratan Sarkar, Dr. Suresh Prosad Sarbadhikari, Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu and some others met Sir William Duke and me on various occasions in 1912 and 1913, and we discussed the possibility of developing the Belgachia Institution into a Medical College affiliated to the Calcutta University.

In December 1914, the Secretary of State agreed to the scheme which had been formulated. The idea of this scheme was that, as a step in the direction of developing an independent medical profession, the establishment of medical schools and colleges affiliated to the University or to Government medical schools, but conducted by independent medical practitioners, should be encouraged. The grant of a non-recurring subsidy of five lakhs and an annual recurring subsidy of Rs. 50,000 was sanctioned, subject to certain conditions. These conditions were that the plans of the buildings to be erected should be approved by the Surgeon-General, that the work will be done under the supervision of the Public Works Department and that the institution, which is registered under Act XXI of 1860, should be asked to execute a deed in favour of Government on the lines of the deeds required from other educational institutions in return for Government grants. It is estimated that the yearly expenses of the hospital and the college will amount to Rs. 1,30,000, to meet which there is an estimated income of Rs. 25,000 from endowments and fees. The recurring grant of Rs. 50,000 made by the Government of Bengal is subject to the condition that the balance, amounting to Rs. 40,000, will be obtained from the municipalities interested and the University.

The college, with these promises in prospect, was able to approach the University with a proposal for affiliation up to the Preliminary

Scientific M. B., and the University have granted that affiliation subject to the condition that the terms laid down by Government are fulfilled. The ceremony which we join to-day is the inauguration of these University classes.

The college has been able to secure the necessary support from the municipalities, and it hopes to obtain the support of the University. Towards the capital cost required, a sum of over two lakhs has been raised; surely it is not too much to hope that the people of Bengal will provide the balance before September next.

This institution is a Bengali institution managed by Bengali doctors for the benefit of Indian students, and I feel confident that it will be supported by the people of Bengal, and I trust that very many of those who love Bengal, and who represent the best thought and the wisest and most practical thought in Bengal, will work hard and join together to make it an unqualified success. The institution has my heartiest good wishes.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Police Parade, Dacca,  
on 20th July 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

I am very pleased to be here. I have come to hand over the King's Police Medals and the other marks of Government's appreciation to those to whom they have been awarded this year. The King's Police Medal is the Blue Ribbon of the Police Service throughout the whole British Empire. It is a decoration which every member of the force, from the newly-joined constable, up to the Inspector-General himself, may aspire to win, and may well be proud to win. Among those who won it in the past, was Deputy Superintendent Basanta Kumar Chatterjee, whose untimely death we all sincerely mourn.

In all countries police work may at times call for supreme self-sacrifice. In India, as in other countries, members of the police force have not shrunk from making the sacrifice. Here, in Bengal, Deputy Superintendent Basanta Kumar Chatterjee and other men have shown that they were ready to lay down their lives in the cause of duty, and their example must, I feel sure, prove an inspiration to their comrades.

• Basanta Kumar Chatterjee was a good police officer, a man who knew his work well and did his work well. But he was more—he was a man of a lovable nature who won the affectionate esteem, not only of his brother officers and of his subordinates—Indian and European alike—but also of those of the general public with whom he was brought into touch. He was a brave man, and as I can say from my own knowledge—he came to see me not many days before his death—he was as modest as he was brave.

Few public servants have more responsible work than the police have: none have more difficult. They have to do their duty often in the face of misunderstanding—sometimes of misrepresentation—sometimes of danger. I am glad that this morning's ceremony gives me an opportunity of expressing my own personal appreciation of the work which many members of the forces have done in the past, and my confidence that in future, through good report or through ill, our police will not be found wanting in devotion to duty. Speaking on behalf of Government, I assure you that in their difficult task of combating revolutionary crime, our police forces have our whole-hearted sympathy and support.

His Excellency then addressed the officers as follows :—

MR. WILLIAM THOMAS MOORE,

• You have had 30 years' service. During this long period you have held many important and heavy charges. Your work has invariably been characterized by zeal and efficiency, and your judgment has been held in esteem, not only by the Department, but also by all administrative officers with whom you have come in contact.

MR. TREVOR CLAUDE SIMPSON,

As Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General, you have been of the utmost service to the Department and to Government. The recent progress in reform and re-organization must, in a great measure, be attributed to your industry, sagacity and devotion.

MR. LIONEL HEWITT COLSON,

You were chosen on account of the previous high standard of your work to undertake very responsible duties in one of the most specialized branches of the police administration. What you have done in that branch has fully justified your selection.

HEAD-CONSTABLE KERAMAT HUSSAIN,

You displayed conspicuous gallantry and presence of mind on the occasion of a Sonthal disturbance in Dinajpur. After the Superintendent of Police had been wounded, you assumed charge and with great presence of mind succeeded in quelling the fray and arresting those responsible for creating it.

INSPECTOR MUHAMMAD ISHAQUDDIN CHAUDHURY,

You followed up the dacoits in the Gaguapur and Majhergram dacoities in the district of Nadia, and arrested eight of them. You carefully supervised the investigation of the case which ended in the conviction of eight accused. By this conviction a formidable gang, consisting of 68 persons, was brought to book and their activities have practically ceased. As a mark of appreciation of these services, I have great pleasure in presenting you with this gold watch and chain.

SUB-INSPECTOR ABDUL GAFFUR,

The information regarding the gang which committed the Gaguapur and Majhergram dacoities in the district of Nadia was first received by you. The promptness with which you communicated it to the Bengal Criminal Investigation Department led to the arrest of the culprits. Since then in Calcutta you have rendered valuable services which led to the detection of two important cases of coining and secured the conviction of the criminals. It gives me great pleasure to present you with this gold watch and chain and a reward of Rs. 200 as a mark of appreciation of your conduct.

SUB-INSPECTOR FAYEZ HOSSAIN,

You, too, rendered valuable services in the detection of a coining case in Calcutta, and in recognition thereof it gives me great pleasure to present you with this silver watch and chain.

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Chittagong Waterworks,  
on 24th July 1916.***

MR. BLISS AND GENTLEMEN,

Few ceremonies in which I have taken part during the last five years have given me more satisfaction than the one which I have just performed. When I arrived in Chittagong in 1912, I was not many hours in the town before I was told that you very much needed a new and more continuous supply of water. I soon learned to sympathize with you in your want and I determined that if it lay in my power to get it for you, you should have a better supply before I left India. It has taken four years to get it; but as things go in this country, and considering the obstacles which had to be overcome, probably we may congratulate ourselves that the delay was not greater. In the first place, I dare say, you remember, when I enquired how I could best help you, I found that you were by no means agreed among yourselves as to what ought to be done: some, including the Government officers, were in favour of the artesian well scheme in connection with which even at that time you had spent over half a lakh on experimental borings, while others wanted something less expensive. You were not even all at one about the smell and taste of the water. I remember I did a lot of smelling and tasting myself in the endeavour to learn what was the best thing to mix with the water in order to render it palatable. Later on I went into the question of the relative values of the schemes proposed—and eventually after thrashing the matter well out with Mr. Henderson and your then Chairman, I came to the conclusion that the artesian well scheme was by far the better scheme—not only for the present needs, but also, and especially for the future needs of your municipality with its rising port which is bound to become more important, and where consequently population must also increase. At the same time I satisfied myself that unless you received much more assistance than Government usually gives to such projects, its cost would be greater than the present generation could bear—at least if your Commissioners were to carry on and extend the services which an important town has a right to expect from its rate-payers. Government recognized that the burden of a loan, extending over many years, is a great handicap to a town, and in consideration of the importance of Chittagong to this part of the province, and of the desirability and prospect of its future development as a port and centre of trade, we decided to give you two lakhs out of the estimated cost of three and-a-half lakhs and to lend you the balance.

You owe a very great deal to my colleague, the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Syed Shamsul Huda, who is in charge of the Department which deals with questions of sanitation in towns. He, too, visited Chittagong, he drank of your old water-supply and he tested your new supply. It is mainly, thanks to him, that you got such favourable terms, and I am sure you rejoice, as greatly as I do, over the honour conferred on him by the King-Emperor.



Mr. Bliss has told us of difficulties which unexpectedly arose after it had been decided to carry the project out. The outbreak of war led to the lapsing of two important contracts—one for the pipes, the other for the reservoirs. Mr. Henderson, however, piloted you through all difficulties. But for his optimism, energy and resourcefulness, we should not have been gathered here to-day; and it is a great disappointment to me—as I believe it must be to him—that he is not here now. I am sure he would have liked to take part in the ceremony which marks the successful completion of a fine piece of work: and I certainly would have liked to congratulate him personally here and now. The appreciation of Mr. Henderson's valuable services which, as Commissioners of the municipality, you have to-day put on record will, I hope, in some measure, make up to him for his disappointment. To the support and encouragement of successive Chairman—Colonel Anderson, Major Gourlay, the Hon'ble Mr. Martin and Mr. Bliss, you owe much. I offer my congratulations to Messrs. Kilburn & Co. on the initial work of boring—and to Messrs. Jessop & Co. and to Mr. Shurrock (who has supervised the work throughout) on the efficient and businesslike way in which the contract has been carried out.

Chittagong has not developed during the last ten years as rapidly as many hoped it would. When I came here first, I soon learned that many of you regretted the administrative changes which took away from your town the distinction of being the chief and only port in a large province. It was only natural that you should do so, but as those same changes brought me to Bengal, I could never quite share in your regret,—though I understood it. I could only hope that you would gradually learn to console yourselves by the thought that there is some distinction in belonging to a province whose capital is the second city of the Empire.

But meanwhile, alas! the Government of Bengal has not been able to spend as much money as some of you would like, nor as much as Government itself would like to spend on dredging for instance and other works. The temporary blocking of the hill section of the railway has been an additional disappointment: but I feel confident that you, in Chittagong, have a prosperous future before you; your port is directly connected by railway with a wonderfully rich hinterland where trade is at present but little developed—and it is, therefore, bound to increase in importance with every passing year. The prosperity of the town will go hand in hand with the prosperity of the railway and of the port; and future generations will gratefully look back to the present Municipal Commissioners who by their forethought have secured for Chittagong, without any undue financial burden, an efficient and up-to-date water supply.

Finally, gentlemen, I thank you for this silver key. I am proud to have it, and I shall always treasure it, for it will remind me of one thing which I have helped to bring about for the good of the people of Bengal, amongst whom it has been my good fortune to live, during four and-a-half years as their Governor; and with whom during those four and-a-half years I have also, I hope, lived as their friend.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented at Chittagong,  
on 26th July 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

I wish to thank you, and through you the people whom you represent, for the kind thought which has prompted this ceremony to-day. It is always sad to part from friends, one thing however always lessens sadness—the knowledge that friendly feelings are mutual! I feel sure that our feelings towards each other are mutual. I meant what I said about Chittagong on Monday, and the outward expression of your kindness towards me to-day is most pleasing to me.

I shall convey to the proper quarter your assurance of deep attachment and loyalty to the throne of our King-Emperor, and your sincere prayer for the success of the British Government and of our Allies. The reception which you have invariably given me here, as the representative in Bengal of the King-Emperor, is proof to me—if any were needed—of the genuineness of these sentiments.

I well remember my first arrival at this railway station four years ago and the great ovation which my wife and I received from the people of Chittagong as we drove in State to the College Hall where you presented us with the address of welcome, and then to Government House where we have on the occasion of several visits since spent happy days. These visits have enabled me to see something of your delightful district. I visited Rangamati last year, and early in this year I spent a most enjoyable time at Cox's Bazar and paid a brief visit to the Naaf river—the extreme southern boundary of Bengal.

It is with genuine sadness that I part from you all now—but it is some satisfaction to me to think that I have helped in doing something of permanent value for your town; I like to think that the water-works which I opened on Monday will be associated with my term of office as Governor of Bengal. In your address you tell me that the scheme may cost more than was originally estimated, and you say you hope Government may give you a further grant. I know this is owing to the conditions brought about by the war and that your request does not mean that you do not appreciate the exceptional assistance already given you by Government. I feel sure that when making it, you have the prosperity of the future finances of the municipality in your minds. You felt before the war that the municipality could not afford to borrow more than a lakh and-a-half and that you could not at all easily make any immediate contribution; you feel that the municipality is in no better position now to contribute towards the increased cost or to take a larger loan. But the conditions which have adversely affected the cost of the work have also adversely affected the revenues of the Province and Government is now, I am sorry to say, not in as good a position to make grants as it was when it treated you so generously. You can be sure that when your application is received it will be considered by me personally, but it is only fair that

I should warn you that under present financial conditions it may be impossible for Government to give you any further grant, and that we may be forced to ask the rate-payers to meet this extra cost themselves, and to regard it as one of the burdens which the war has brought upon all of us.

The supply of good drinking water to the people of the town is but a small part of the great problem to which you refer in your address—the improvement of sanitation in the districts generally. I am glad to hear from your Commissioner, Mr. De, that the larger question is receiving your attention and that you are devoting much of the Public Works Cess to it. The problem of village sanitation can be solved only by the local bodies, and I hope the energy which your District Board is showing in this matter, will stimulate the leaders of the people in many villages to give to the question that attention which it most assuredly deserves.

And now, gentlemen, I bid you farewell. It is a great disappointment to Lady Carmichael that she has not been able to come to Chittagong with me on this occasion. She would have liked before she left India, to thank you all for the many kindness she has received during her visits here. But, alas! she cannot now do that. I must, therefore, thank you for her as well as for myself. In our home in Scotland we shall both often remember the little hills of Chittagong. We shall wonder how the dredging is getting on. I shall hope your salt golas are dry! We shall remember how kind you all were to us here, and we shall wish you all prosperity. Once more good-bye.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize Distribution at the Engineering School, Dacca, on 5th August 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

When Mr. Henderson asked me to come here this morning, I did not realize that the water gala was to be preceded by the prize-giving. I daresay it is just as well, both for you and for me, that I did not, for if I had I might have felt that it was my duty to prepare a long speech, and I feel sure that few people like making, and still fewer like listening to, speeches in Eastern Bengal in August. It must, I am sure, be a relief to many of you to think you can soon get rid of your superfluous clothing and enjoy the cool water of the tank, a pleasure which many others will envy.

I am glad, however, of this chance of acknowledging as Governor the good work done by the Dacca School of Engineering and by Mr. Henderson, its Head Master. More than once when I have visited the workshops I have been very interested in what I saw.

Mr. Henderson has reminded us that the school is no new development. It has been in existence since 1876. It has not done all which some of you hoped to see it do. I fancy the authorities stopped some of its proposed developments, though no doubt they had good reason in each case for their action; but in 40 years the school has done much good work, and to-day it holds an important place as a training ground for men of the overseer class and for artizans. I am glad to hear that the artizan classes are so well appreciated. I believe increased facilities for training artizans will do much for this country, and what Mr. Henderson said shows that there is plenty of demand for such training in this part of the province. I believe similar training would be appreciated anywhere, and I hope the Commission, which will enquire during the coming cold weather into the industrial possibilities of India, will give us some advice as to how best to secure it. Mr. Henderson spoke of the possibility of the school being moved to a new site. A scheme for this has been approved, though want of money prevents us from starting on it just yet; I hope, however, it may not be long delayed. When the University scheme is taken in hand, the extension of the Dacca College will be one of the first things which Government will be called on to carry out. This will involve moving the school from its present position in the college compound. Therefore, even if the improvement of the school might not on other grounds have been put in the forefront of the University scheme, it is likely that one of the first results of that scheme will be to give you a new and improved building on a more suitable site. I trust Mr. Henderson and his colleagues will live long to make full use of it. I was particularly glad to hear that so many of your fitter and turner artizan boys are helping to make shells. Mr. Henderson seems to think you would have done even more, if you had not been made to lend your lathes to be used elsewhere. I am sorry for you if you feel this. It is always horrid to feel that one could do much more if only one had the chance which one thought one was going to get and

didn't; and the fact that that grief often comes to one, makes it no less real. But you are luckier than most people here are in being able to help at all, and I trust you find comfort in knowing that the 1,550 fuse-holding screws which the school turns out every week, are thoroughly appreciated. The experience will help them, and those about them to realize better the great struggle going on at present—a struggle which by its result will affect the future of Bengal just as much as of England. I have no doubt that in later life they will be proud of the part they took, for they will feel that they helped to defeat the greatest blow that has ever been aimed at freedom.

Gentlemen, now I am sure you are tired of listening to me and want to get to the water. I thank you for asking me to come here. I congratulate the prize-winners and wish you all success.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Dacca Legislative Council,  
on 7th August 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

Our business is now done, but it is the custom for the President to use the opportunity afforded by a Council meeting in order to speak about any matter which interests members if he thinks he can do so with advantage. I wish to avail myself of that opportunity now. First I must say that I am glad to see so many of you here. It is hardly likely in the nature of things that the Governor of Bengal will often ask the members of his Council to do much legislative work in Dacca; though I think he may continue to find it of distinct service to summon them to meet here occasionally. The people of this part of the Presidency do not claim that Dacca is equal in importance to Calcutta, but many of them, when they look back to the time when Calcutta was the political Capital of India, and Dacca was the Capital of a Province, feel that a city which was once a capital has peculiar claims to consideration. Be that as it may, I know that the people of Dacca are pleased when we, who usually meet in the second city of the Empire, meet here in the second capital of Bengal; and so I am glad to find when I do ask you to come here that you are willing to do.

And now I want to speak of one matter which I know puzzles some of you. You have heard or read about those Bengali young men who were doing hospital work with the troops in Mesopotamia and who have quite recently returned. You are surprised to find that no other Bengali young men have gone out in their place, for you believe that some young men were ready prepared to go, and had for a long time been anxious to go: you wonder why they have not gone; and some of you do not feel quite comfortable about this.

The Bengali young men, who were in Mesopotamia and who have come back, went there full of enthusiasm and determined to show that Bengalis can be useful in a place where war is going on. They did work which has been pronounced by those best qualified to judge, to have been useful work and good work; they won the hearty thanks of those who were on the spot and who saw what they were doing. Their fellow countrymen have every right to be proud of them; and all of us, whether their fellow countrymen or not, ought to be grateful to them.

They stayed on in Mesopotamia doing their work of mercy; many of them until long after they would have liked to come back, and all of them for longer than they had undertaken to stay.

Now that they have come back they are fully entitled not only to the commendation due to any one who has tried his best to serve his country, but also to that further praise which comes to the successful. Dr. Suresh Prosad Sarbadhikari who organized the hospital work, and who raised the men; those who worked with him in doing this; those of your own number and the others who joined with you in subscribing the money needed for equipment, all deserve our thanks. This is fully recognized by all who have any knowledge of what was done by the

young men, Dr. Suresh Prosad Sarbadhikari and his co-workers did raise other men and hoped that they, too, would go to Mesopotamia—not this time to run a stationary hospital, but to do strictly ambulance work and form a stretcher-bearer corps. Dr. Suresh Prosad Sarbadhikari worked hard; he never spared himself in his noble endeavour to prepare young men to do good work. It is a bitter disappointment to him and to many others that the young men have not gone. They have not gone because there was a misunderstanding. We all know how easy it is at any time for people who are not familiar with technicalities to misunderstand things which seem simple to those who are familiar with them. That is what happened. Owing to a misunderstanding, the nature and extent of which was not realized until it was too late, the young men, who were so eagerly looking forward to going, have not gone. Military matters must be subject to fixed rules; civilians do not often study these rules, even when they do, they do not always grasp their import. While war is going on it is not easy, it is probably not even right, for military authorities to find time to discuss matters which in a time of peace they might, perhaps, be prepared to discuss; and it is not always easy for civilians, especially when they have eagerly set their hearts on getting something to appreciate the importance of regulations which they do not understand, but which seem to them to run counter to their wishes. I think I can say with truth that I am as jealous for the honour of Bengal as any one can be who was not born a Bengali: and I assure you that I sympathize in your disappointment. I have heard the whole story; I have read all the papers. I realize how the misunderstanding came about. Mistakes were made, but I believe they were honestly made; and I feel sure there ought to be no resentment against any one. I do not despair; I believe we may yet see more young Bengalis doing ambulance work at the front, and thus helping to win the war, if only there are young men willing to do it; but there must be no acting in haste, no assuming that things will be as we would like them to be; every step must be fully and accurately understood. We must realize—more clearly than we are sometimes apt to do—the terrible responsibility which rests with those who are the final authority in all arrangements for conducting a war. We must remember that their regulations have been carefully thought out and adopted long ago. I believe the authorities are sympathetic; I know they appreciate enthusiasm and devotion wherever these are found; but their first duty is to win the war, and they must enforce what they think right even when we do not see the reason of it.

One thing more I want to tell you. The Viceroy has been considering the position with the Commander-in-Chief, and with the other members of his Government. They have determined to try, as an experimental measure, to raise a Double Company of Infantry composed of Bengalis, on precisely the same terms as are offered to the Indian Army generally. Enlistment will be for the period of the war with the option to the soldier of remaining if he chooses, in the service after its conclusion. The Double Company, when formed, will be located on the Frontier for training, and, when properly trained, may be sent on field service.

That the Government of India should be willing to consider this now,—while war is going on, while their anxieties are great, while their thoughts must be more than fully occupied,—shows that they have not neglected the feelings of Bengal. That they should be willing to make the experiment is proof that they do sympathize with us, that they do believe that Bengalis are loyal and are devoted. Surely it is the duty now of everyone who loves Bengal to see that the experiment shall succeed, to show that emotional and impetuous as Bengalis undoubtedly are, they are generous enough to exercise self-control, that they are ready to submit to discipline, and will do their part when asked just as well as other people do their part, and without demanding any exceptional or better terms.

The Council now stands adjourned until 11 A.M. on 4th September when we shall meet in Government House, Calcutta.



***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize Distribution at the Dacca Medical School, on 9th August 1916.***

COLONEL NEWMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am grateful to Surgeon-General Edwards for having given me another opportunity of showing my interest in medical education in Bengal. I fully share in the regret which you so kindly express that Lady Carmichael is not able to be present on this occasion. In many ways too I regret that this is the last occasion upon which I shall be able to preside at your annual prize-giving. My wife and I both hoped that we would see much done for the school and for the hospital, before we left Bengal, and we would gladly have helped in any way we could, but, as you know, the schemes we had in view were rendered impossible of attainment by the absence of funds during the latter half of our stay in this Province. I feel confident that those who succeed us will take up the work where we have left it, and I trust that they will be more fortunate than we have been in finding that the necessary funds are available.

I look on the needs of the school—especially the improvement of the laboratory accommodation and the enlargement of the school buildings, particularly of the dissecting-room—as very urgent needs indeed. I look upon the provision of hostel accommodation as absolutely required in the interests of the students, and I think these projects ought to be carried out as soon as ever money is available.

Some of you may have been here when once before I spoke about the duty of meeting the demand for medical education by giving the very best that can be supplied. I believe in keeping the standard high, and in placing a high ideal before the students; for the use which they will make in afterlife of the materials they will have to work with, will largely depend upon the ideal which they have learned in their school to set before them. I spoke to the students I remember of the great value of nursing: it is a very real disappointment to Lady Carmichael (as it is to me) that the scheme in which she was so interested and which was so nearly ready to be put into working order, has had to be abandoned for the present owing to the want of the money needed to carry it out. But I feel certain that the abandonment is only temporary. The need for the scheme is so great and so obvious that I feel sure it will receive sympathetic consideration as soon as financial prosperity returns. Meanwhile Miss Hilson, even during the too short period she was connected with the hospital, showed what the possibilities of the scheme were: and with the generous donation of Rs. 25,000 from Babu Gour Nitai Sankhanidhi, Colonel Newman has been able to create a fund, the interest from which has already enabled him to employ an operation nurse. You have an outpatient nurse, and Colonel Newman tells me he soon hopes to have a Superintendent Nurse. I am grateful to Gour Nitai Sankhanidhi for having made it possible that a beginning, at any rate, shall be made with the scheme which my wife has so much at heart, and I hope his

example will be followed by other generous donors. I agree with what Colonel Newman said as to there being few better ways in which private generosity can assert itself than in assisting the healing arts, and I sincerely trust that the citizens of Dacca will show that in this matter they are determined not to let the second city in Bengal be far behind any city in the Indian Empire.

I was surprised to hear from Colonel Newman how small the proportion of Muhammadans here is. I should have expected the demand for medical education among the Muhammadan community in Dacca to be much larger. Of 260 students only 21 are Muhammadans. Colonel Newman tells me only 13 students applied last year: of these he admitted nine—the others he had to reject because they had not reached a standard of preliminary general education such as would have enabled them to benefit by the teaching. My own personal knowledge convinces me that the standard of medical education must not be lowered, and if the standard is to be maintained, a good preliminary general education is essential. But I feel sure that Muhammadan practitioners are sorely needed, and I hope that soon there will be more Muhammadan candidates well qualified for admission.

I was glad to hear what Colonel Newman said of the relations between the teachers and the pupils: and of the success you have achieved in games. Long may these relations and that success continue.

Colonel Newman touched upon important questions connected with the financing and the control of medical education and with the future position of the Dacca Medical School in relation to the new Dacca University. His ideas as to the former question were new to me, being based on facts which had not been brought to my knowledge before, but I would be inclined to favour a change if it can be shown to promise more financial aid to medical education, especially for the provision of hostels for the residence of students here, provided it does not involve any risk of wasting money. I have not enough knowledge to say whether this would be the case. With regard to the latter question I cannot express any opinion on the question of possible affiliation in the future: it seems to me certain that the Dacca Medical School will increase in importance when Dacca becomes a University town: but whether it does or does not, I hope the people of Eastern Bengal, who are in a position to help the school financially, will not turn a deaf ear to the appeals of the Principal and so enable the school to take a worthy place in the new order of things.

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Central Bank, the Pestonji Ward and the laying of the Foundation-stone of the Muhammadan Hostel at Rajbari, on 21st August 1916.***

MR. DUNLOP AND GENTLEMEN,

It is a long time since I first expressed a wish to visit Rajbari. But for various reasons my visit has had to be put off until to-day. I have often passed through Goalundo on my way to and from Dacca and on each of these occasions the Collector of Faridpur and the Sub-divisional Officer of Goalundo have sped me on my way. I have, therefore, had many opportunities of hearing about the affairs of the subdivision, and I was particularly interested in what I heard from Mr. Ramani Mohan Das of the spread of the co-operative movement in this part of the Province. When I heard that a Bank building was being erected, I gladly accepted the co-operators' invitation to open it conveyed to me informally on one of my passing visits by Mr. Ramani Mohan Das. When the date for the ceremony was fixed, my Hon'ble Colleague, Nawab Sir Shamsul Huda, gave me another invitation from those interested in the Muhammadan hostel, and I readily accepted their invitation, as well as a third extended to me by the Dispensary Committee.

I am glad that to-day's ceremony gives me a chance of acknowledging the public spirit of late Babu Surya Kumar Guha Roy, to whose generosity the dispensary owes its main building, and of Mr. Pestonji who has provided the funds for the new ward which I have opened this morning. The hospital returns show how great are the opportunities which this area affords for the relief of human suffering; and these two men will, I am sure, earn the gratitude of many for their much-needed gift.

I have this morning also laid the foundation-stone of the new Wajidunnesa Muhammadan Hostel. That hostel is named after the mother of one of the chief subscribers Chaudhuri Muhammad Ismail Khan. Many Muhammadan boys come from the country villages to attend the two high schools and I fear the hostel will not be large enough to meet the needs of all of them; but I hope that it may be possible to enlarge it some day. I know that the anxieties of the parents in villages is often very great when they part with their sons at an age when outside influences are bound to mould their future character and careers. It will be something to these parents to know that their boys will be comfortably housed, but it will mean much more to them to know that their sons are under the care of a good Superintendent. A well-built hostel is in itself a great advantage—but without proper supervision it may be turned into a great disadvantage. A hostel with a bad or careless Superintendent is worse than no hostel at all. I trust, therefore, that you will see to it that a really good man is secured to look after the boys in the Wajidunnesa Hostel.

And now I come to the original object of my visit, for it was to do what I have just done, to open your new Central Bank building, that I was first asked to come here.

Co-operation is a thing in which I have taken a keen interest while I have been in India, for I believe it more than most things can help India. I believe it will be one of the main factors in building up a prosperous people. Unless its people are prosperous, no country can have a Government fully effective of good. The money which Government spends on administration comes from the people and it is only if the people are prosperous that Government can spend much on improving the conditions under which the people live. To take one example how can Government give education for the masses—one of the things which we in India need most, unless it raises more taxes; and I do not see how we are to raise more taxes unless the people have more capital. Co-operation leads to the increase of capital: it prevents waste in unproductive expenditure and stimulates to productive effort on the part of the people.

I congratulate the co-operators in Faridpur on the advance they have made—the Central Bank has now a capital of over one and-a-half lakhs of rupees, it has 47 affiliated societies, it employs a paid Secretary, and it is now in possession of its own bank buildings. For this gratifying result the people are indebted to Mr. Ramani Mohan Das whose enthusiasm has infected the members of the Central Bank Board and those who have come forward so generously with gifts of the site and of subscriptions: but I would remind you also that you owe a great deal to the efforts of those like Mr. K. C. De and others who pioneered the movement in this district, for you have profited by their experiences and not a little also by their failures. You have reaped where they have sown.

There are more societies in Faridpur than in any other district in the Province. You have every right to be proud of that, and I congratulate you, but I repeat what I have said in other places and on other occasions—do not be intoxicated by success. Co-operation is like a plant which spreads steadily where it has grown up from the original seed, but which does not easily take root when transplanted. It is wise, therefore, to push out slowly rather than to attempt to start new centres far from control. Where you have a number of societies closely associated with each other, it is easy for a new society to keep on the straight path: and it is easier for the old societies to improve their working by watching the working of the societies in their immediate vicinity. The more compact the villages in the Union are, the stonger is the Union likely to be.

There is another point I would like to impress on you—and through you on all Central Banks in Bengal. If a Central Bank is to be a sound financial success, it must be conducted on sound business principles. Reports which I have seen make me fear that some of the banks are still inclined to rely too much on short-term deposits for their capital. Deposits are to be encouraged in every way possible: by depositing the members learn thrift and it is better to have deposits “at call” than no deposits. But you must remember that your ordinary business is agricultural loans and such loans have to be made for long terms. You should be very careful to see that the proportion of short-term loans upon which you rely for your capital is not too great. This is a point upon

which I insisted when I addressed the last Provincial Conference, and I am glad to see that Sir Edward Maclagan's Committee have since laid special stress on it. I would like also to remind you how necessary it is for you to build up, as quickly as you can, a substantial reserve in liquid securities. Not long ago you had a good lesson in the necessity for this. Last year when the price of jute fell so unexpectedly for the cultivator, some of your members were unable to repay their loans. I thoroughly sympathized with the action you took in not pressing them for payment. I knew that had you done so you would only have driven your members to borrow from the *mahajan*—and you did not want to do this. I knew it was not unwillingness on the part of the borrowers to pay which stopped repayment; it was sheer inability, and therefore as you would read in the resolution on the Registrar's report, I did not sympathize in the least with those who criticized your action. But you soon found that before your members were able to pay you had to lend them more and to do this you had to raise more capital. You were fortunate in being able to do this: if capital had not been available, you could not have helped your members. It is to guard against such a contingency that a substantial reserve should be built up as quickly as possible.

I have heard of your success in forming a society at Lakhikhole for the manufacture of sugar, and of your endeavours to help the weavers. These are both efforts in the right direction. Co-operation to increase credit must come first; but once the credit has been obtained and the lessons of co-operation learned, the opportunities before you in an agricultural country like India are immense. You can save waste and avoid unproductive expenditure by joining together to purchase good seed, to purchase good implements, to purchase unadulterated manures, to purchase materials for cottage industries—and to sell your agricultural and industrial products in a fair market; and I hope at no distant date you will be able to form societies with such objects in view.

And these suggestions by no means exhaust the possibilities of co-operation. When I came to Bengal I made many inquiries about the people and how far they were able to manage their own village affairs. I was often told that the people had not sufficient education to govern themselves in village affairs and that they would not join together for the purpose: but from what I have heard and still more from what I have seen of co-operative societies, I am persuaded that in many villages the people have quite enough intelligence and capacity to join together, and that it is only example and encouragement which are needed in many cases to secure Local Self-Government in our villages. The experience gained in the co-operative societies will be very valuable, and wherever there is a successful society, there will, I anticipate, be little difficulty in making Local Self-Government a reality.

Mr. Dunlop is keenly interested in co-operation, and I am glad to hear how much you have appreciated his help.

Once more I congratulate you on having your own building. I thank you for having let me take part in the opening of your Bank. I wish the Bank every success and I hope that its success will lead you to still further efforts to help yourselves, for you will in this way be helping, as we all ought to try to help, to make Bengal prosperous.

***His Excellency's Speech at the laying of the Foundation-stone of the  
Dacca Muhammadan Orphanage, on 22nd August 1916.***

NAWAB SAHIB AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for allowing me to be associated with this memorial the first permanent memorial raised in this city to the memory of a great man, the late Nawab Bahadur. Sir Salimullah was my friend; he often spoke to me of this orphanage and in 1913 he and I visited it together. He told me then how much he hoped to place the institution on a permanent basis by providing for it a building of its own, and before he died he had expressed the wish that I would lay the foundation-stone.

• But alas! in January 1915 Nawab Bahadur Sir Salimullah was taken from us—and after his death there was for a time a risk of the institution being unable to survive the loss of his generous interest and patronage. The immediate danger was averted through the generosity of the Nawabzadi Amina Banoo and my friend, the Khan Sahib Khwaja Muhammad Azam, who, I am sure, gladly took the opportunity of showing their affection for one who so long and so worthily occupied the position of head of the Dacca family. It is a tribute to the personal character of the late Nawab Bahadur that those immediately associated with him should have come forward after his death to carry out his wishes with regard to the Islamia Etimkhana by securing for the institution a permanent abode. There could be no more fitting memorial to his memory.

• It will give me real pleasure to lay the foundation-stone of your new building, and I wish you all success in your charitable efforts on behalf of the Muhammadan orphans of Dacca.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Industrial Exhibition, Dacca,  
on 22nd August 1916.***

MR. ASCOLI, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have come here this afternoon—gladly I hope—to see an Exhibition of the Arts and Industry of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions. The only sad thing is that I have to make a speech and you have to listen to it. Speeches always seem to me most unnecessary on occasions like this. It would be so much nicer for everybody if some one—some police man or some Public Works Department man who knows everybody and who knows who ought to get in without paying, and how much those who ought to pay, have to pay—just unlocked the door and let us all go in—each of us with the person we most want to talk to,—to look at the things. But that can't be. The *hookum* is that you must listen while I make a long speech.

I remember a day when the late Nawab Bahadur, Sir Salimullah, arranged a most interesting exhibition of the works of the Dacca artisans in the Shahbag Garden. I think it was during the second year of our stay in Bengal. I am afraid many of you were away at Shillong or some other place then, but some of you were here and saw the show. The late Nawab Bahadur was always ready to take my wife and me to see the bazars where the different artisans live and work, and it was delightful to see his interest in the workers and his enthusiasm for the arts and crafts of the native city. The memory of these expeditions made in the late Nawab Bahadur's company will always remain with us as among the pleasantest of many pleasant memories of the second Capital of the Province.

The name of Dacca is associated all the world over with the production of the finest muslin fabrics, which the hand of the weaver has ever wrought, and many are the stories told of these muslins which are remembered under such picturesque names as Morning Dew and Running Water to quote but two of them. Travellers have left their record of the glories of Dacca in the old days and of the embroideries and silver works produced by the inhabitants. But from the day when Murshid Kuli Khan left here and took up his residence at Murshidabad, the glories of Dacca began to decline. The Court rapidly decreased and much of the market for beautiful things consequently was lost. To add to this disaster the English merchants whose influence became paramount were more interested in making fortunes for themselves and profits for the Company which they served, than in encouraging and preserving indigenous industries, and the cheaper goods of the West took away most of what market remained, and such of the artisans as did not return to Agriculture kept themselves alive by supplying a small demand from the richer families, mostly on the Surat side of India, who refused to be satisfied by anything but the genuine article.

My wife and I have often talked over schemes for preserving the remnants of the great industry, and we had hoped to organize an Exhibition of Arts and Crafts in Calcutta during the approaching cold weather

wherein Dacca would have had a great part. But exhibitions if they are to do any widespread good unfortunately involve a considerable expenditure, and money, as you all know, is not easy to get just now; the Financial Department is supreme where spending money is concerned, so there was nothing to do but to give up the idea. We were most unwilling to give it up, especially my wife, and the present exhibition is in some sense a sop to our unwillingness. For Lady Carmichael had talked the matter over with Mr. Ascoli whose interest in the people is well known to all of you and he was keen to help her. Mr. Ascoli very kindly undertook to collect what specimens he could of the local industries to show what Dacca still can produce. Khan Bahadur Saiyid Aulad Hasan, who has always been most kind both to Lady Carmichael and to me, has also helped; and they have got up this exhibition which, though it will only make me sorrier that we could not have what we wanted, will, I feel sure, interest you, unless you are not as intelligent as those who live in a future university town ought to be.

You will find here some of the finest of Dacca's productions, not only old work, but also samples of modern muslins, embroideries, silver work, conch-shell work and other arts, and Mr. Ascoli has brought together a most interesting exhibition of the products of other crafts, of wood-works, dyeing, butter-making, of agricultural produce. I only wish a far wider public could have an opportunity of seeing it!

I hope, however, you may, perhaps, be able to make the exhibition an annual function and that as it becomes better known people from many parts will come to see it and that thus the craftsmen may be benefited. I hope, too, that it may be possible to organize a permanent exhibit from Dacca in the Commercial Museum which the Commerce and Industry Department of the Government of India so wisely maintain in Calcutta.

Now Ladies and Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in declaring the exhibition open.



***His Excellency's Speech at the Durbar held in Dacca, on  
23rd August 1916.***

**KHAN BAHADUR AND RAI BAHADURS,**

It has given me great pleasure to present to you the *Sanads* of your titles.

**KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI MUHAMMAD AZHUR,**

For thirty years you did excellent work as a member of the Provincial Executive Service.

**RAI KAMALA NATH DAS BAHADUR,**

You, too, have had a distinguished career extending over many years, but in the Provincial Judicial Service.

**RAI JOGENDRA KUMAR GHOSH BAHADUR,**

After many years of meritorious service as a Deputy Magistrate and Collector, you have been promoted to the responsible post of Magistrate of a district.

**RAI SRI NATH RAY BAHADUR,**

You have held for many years the responsible post of Manager of the estate of one of the chief noblemen of Eastern Bengal; in that position you have ever been ready to promote schemes for securing the public good, and you have recently been elected as a representative on the Bengal Legislative Council.

**RAI MAN MOHAN CHAKRAVARTI BAHADUR,**

For thirty-three years you served the State with energy and devotion as an officer of the Police Force and now in your retirement you are doing useful work as an Honorary Magistrate in the city of Dacca.

**RAI NISHI KANTA GHOSH BAHADUR,**

You have served your fellow-townsmen in Mymensingh for many years as Chairman of the Municipality and it is largely to your efforts that the people of that town owe their present improved water-supply and system of drainage.

**KHAN BAHADUR AND RAI BAHADURS,**

I congratulate each of you very heartily on the honour conferred upon you and trust you may all live long to enjoy it.

**KHAN SAHIB AND RAI SAHIBS,**

It has given me great pleasure to present to you the *Sanads* of your titles.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI QUAMARUDDIN AHMAD,**

When I visited this year the colonies in the south of the Bakarganj district, I became personally acquainted with the excellent work you have done as a Colonization Officer.

RAI SAHIB PROMOTHO NATH GHOSH,

You have rendered your fellow-countrymen excellent service as President of the *Panchayat* of your local Union and as an Honorary Magistrate.

RAI SAHIB CHAKKAN LAL BHATTACHARJI,

For many years you have served the Government well in the Jail Department and you did specially meritorious work recently at Barisal.

RAI SAHIB CHANDRA KISHOR KAR,

You have rendered valuable service to your country as an Honorary Magistrate, as Vice-Chairman of the Kishorganj Local Board and as Chairman of the Bajitpur Municipality.

RAI SAHIB AKHOY KUMAR SEN,

You have done uniformly good work spread over a period of many years in the Dacca Police Office.

All of you have my hearty congratulations.

MAHARAJA, RAJA BAHADUR, NAWABS, RAJA AND GENTLEMEN,

This is the third Durbar which I have held in Dacca. On each occasion when we met here before I told you just what I thought about the affairs of the country. I did this with the hope of re-assuring you (and through you a wider public) as to some matters about which you felt anxious, and also with the hope of turning your serious attention to some other things which closely affect you all: I mean to do the same to-day.

I shall, I hope, visit Dacca again in the cold weather, but this is the last Durbar at which I shall preside here. My term of office has gone by all too quickly: it seems but yesterday that many of you welcomed me at the Sadar Ghât more than four years ago. Some were with us then who are here no longer, and we miss them much. Sir William Duke, whom we all loved and trusted, has been called to London to be one of the Secretary of State's advisers, and death has taken from us the genial presence of the Nawab Bahadur Sir Salimullah who was a good friend to so many of us. I have visited Dacca regularly twice each year; and I shall keep many pleasant memories of your city. I have always felt the better for my visits. It was here that I took to playing golf. I have had much quiet time here in which to think—that in itself was no small advantage. I have made many friends. I have learned of the history of Eastern Bengal from the lips of my friend Khan Bahadur Saiyid Aulad Hasan—the city's modern historian—on the spot where some of the great rulers of the past lived and ruled—surely a royal road to a knowledge of history—and I have had in Dacca opportunities denied to me in the greater capital of visiting the people in their villages and coming into close personal touch with the artizans and the cultivators. Coming to Dacca has enabled me to see places in Eastern Bengal which I might never otherwise have seen and to learn the needs of people whose

voice is not heard in Calcutta. No doubt it was because they foresaw advantages of this kind that some of those who knew Bengal best suggested in 1912 that there should be an honourable understanding that the Governor of Bengal would not only regard Dacca as the second capital of his province, but would spend a substantial portion of his time there. Each Governor must judge for himself. I in no way wish to hamper my successor. But I in no way regret what I have done.

I was, I confess, disappointed in one respect when I came here at first; but that was because I did not understand and I expected too much. I imagined from what I had heard that Eastern Bengal was a separate province and that Dacca was its capital in the same sort of sense as Lucknow is the capital of Oudh. I fancied that it was only in Dacca that I should meet the people of Eastern Bengal and that I could learn of the needs of the Eastern districts only in my second capital. I now know that that is not so. It is not so because Eastern Bengal has joined with the rest of the province in forming one United Bengal; and I am glad; for if Bengal is to go forward, as I hope she will go forward, she must be united.

But the fact that Dacca does not make for divergence of interests between what were once two divided parts of a whole, does not take away from its importance to the Governor as a home during a substantial portion of the year.

Soon after I came here I learned your natural wish that Dacca should share with Calcutta in the distribution of the head-quarters of departments and in the meetings of the Legislative Councils, and I was anxious to meet your desire, but as I told you last year, it has been found impracticable to make your city the head-quarters of any of the Government departments. This decision was come to by officers who were identified with Eastern Bengal and whom you know to be keenly interested in Eastern Bengal, so I feel sure you accept it as in the interests of the greater United Bengal.

I have thrice summoned my Legislative Council to meet here, thus recognizing the claims of the second capital, but as I have explained before and for reasons which I am sure you appreciate, there is much of its work which a Governor cannot fairly ask his Council to do in a place from which many of its members must often be absent, and meetings here must always be confined to the consideration of matters not likely to evoke controversy.

As I said just now, my term of office has passed all too quickly; my first two years were taken up principally in visiting the different parts of the Province and in studying its administration: and before I had completed half my term, the war broke out. Since then want of money has made impossible much which I would have liked to have seen done. Good drinking-water—improved sanitary conditions—above all widespread elementary education to teach people to appreciate their own needs, these seem to me the greatest wants of Bengal. In these and in much else I hoped to see progress; and I believe that but for the war I should have seen progress.

Here, in Dacca, there has been a special disappointment. In Durbar here three years ago, I told you I hoped that the Dacca University would be opened before I left Bengal. The war, and the financial conditions arising out of the war have made that impossible. The Committee which sat during my first year, drew up a most thorough report, their proposals were accepted by Government almost as they stood, but it is clear now that the University, though it may, I hope, be opened within the next two years, will be a smaller institution than was contemplated either by the Committee or by the Government. Want of funds may not be the only cause of delay, for some time at least it will be hard to recruit men such as we need to make Dacca University the success which it ought to be made. This does not mean that the beginnings of the University will be in any sense less good—the foundation will be as sound, though the superstructure will not be so complete at first as we hoped.

Your drainage scheme too, which some people think a more crying need than the University, is not yet begun; your hospital, in which Sir William Duke took so keen an interest, is not what I had hoped it might have been by now. These and many other disappointments are the result of the war. Fortunate are those to whom the war has brought no other grief; who have not to mourn, as so many of their fellow-subjects mourn, the loss of those they loved, but who will ere long rejoice with their fellow-subjects in the triumph that is coming. The war has done one thing for which we can even now rejoice. It has shown us the essential unity of the British Empire. It is true that this has for a long time, some might even say has always, been recognized, but until the war broke out, until indeed the war had gone on for some time, the recognition had not that clearness which it has to-day. The war has proved that every part of the Empire is ready to help the Empire as a whole. There is no part which is not doing its best; and there is no part which does not feel that every other part is doing its best. The war has shown, too, that it is essential to the very existence of the Empire that all its parts should be united; and that every part should help the whole. India is doing her best, and the rest of the Empire is seeing that. It is not so long since there were parts of the Empire whose people took little heed of India. They looked on India as a mere possession of His Majesty's—they did not look on Indians as his subjects in the same sense in which they look on themselves as his subjects. They hardly do that even yet: it takes a long time for prejudices to die, and where there is ignorance there can be no true judgment. But the war has taught those people something of Indian bravery and of Indian loyalty; and they will be readier than they were to form a truer estimate than they did of the value of India to Britain; and I hope, too, that the war is teaching some Indians to form a truer estimate of the value of Britain to India. Many Indians have had an idea that Englishmen only valued India as an outlet for trade or as affording openings for their sons; and that was true of some Englishmen; but the war is changing that; more of you and more of us realize that neither England nor India can flourish, as we all wish them to flourish, if they are to be parted from each other, that neither England nor

India can make the most of her destiny except in close co-operation, in mutual good will, and in mutual respect. No country can ever be a really integral part of the British Empire whose people have not won the good will and the esteem of the other parts of the Empire; and it is in that esteem and good will that any part will find its surest guarantee that its governance inside the Empire shall be such as to give its people a full chance of making the best of what is in them, in accordance with those principles of justice and fair play, to uphold which so many British lives and so many Indian lives have been willingly sacrificed during the last two years. It is this that is in our minds when we speak of a new angle of vision: it is this which raises the hopes of so many of us: and it is this which should lead us all to do our utmost to secure that our fellow-countrymen, be we Indians or be we English, do nothing to lessen the respect which the people of all lands worthy to be a part of the British Empire should have for each other. Anything which lessens that respect for Bengal will check the progress of Bengal and of India. Yet we cannot deny that some things are happening which do lessen that respect. You know to what I refer. I have spoken to you before now of those wicked, those insane, deeds which do so much harm to the reputation of Bengal and I must refer to them again. I do not wish to give you an exaggerated idea: I do not wish to alarm you in any way. There is no cause for alarm; things are not so bad as many people who know nothing of Bengal would have us think. Bengal is loyal, of that I feel sure. I would go further, I would say she is more loyal to-day than she ever was before to our King-Emperor, for there are more Bengalis to-day than there ever were before who can give a reason for their loyalty, who feel that in being loyal to King George they are also being loyal to their motherland. There was a time when there were some—I do not believe there were ever very many, but they were an appreciable number,—of earnest patriotic Bengalis who honestly believed that they could serve their country best by trying to do harm to England. There may be a few who think so yet, but they are very few; and of those few most, I believe, only think as they do because of ignorance; as they grow older and wiser they will change their minds as others have done, they will learn, if they really love their country, to give up what, more than anything else, is hurting their country. But it cannot be denied that there are others—too many of them—in Bengal who are not earnest, who are not patriotic, who are only full of self-conceit and who are greedy of personal gain; too cowardly some of them to come into the open and mean enough to persuade better, but more ignorant young men to do what they would not themselves dare to do. I know you regret, I know Bengal regrets that it is so. You can help, all Bengal can help, to make it so no longer. If there is once a strong public opinion that all this revolutionary activity is not only futile as a threat to Britain, but is a treachery to Bengal, the activity will cease. Such a public opinion is growing, and you can help it to grow. Other things are needed: more skilful detection, more subtle observation, possibly some changes in our penal laws; these are things which can only be got gradually, which must not be hurried and which must be left to Government—a better training for our young men, more outlet for their

energies, more encouragement to them to make good use of their abilities, these are things for which both Government and the people can work together: but these too can only be slowly attained. A change in public opinion can be wrought quickly, and would have instant effect. A change is coming. Till quite recently the public were frankly incredulous. I did not blame them. They did not believe that young men belonging to respectable classes, classes not hitherto given to crime, could band themselves together to wage a guerilla warfare against the State. This attitude has changed; many men who two years ago indignantly denied that there was truth in the suspicions of the police now tell me they are full of apprehension; they are nervous often not so much lest they should be the victims of a dacoity, as lest their own relatives should be led astray. This is well, but it is not enough. What we need is that all who love Bengal should hate and let it be felt that they hate all that harms Bengal. It is not easy for me who am only beginning to learn how public opinion is formed here, to speak with certainty; but I sometimes wonder whether many people really grasp what the Bengal revolutionary party has done; and I feel sure that not many really appreciate what Government is trying to do. I am inclined to think that the facts in regard to both these points are not well enough known. Since 1907, when crime of this sort began, there have been 39 murders; there have been 101 dacoities, committed, we believe, all of them by men who would scorn to admit that their motives were not political. Eight of these dacoities were associated with murder. Nineteen of the men murdered were police officers. At one time it used to be said with almost cynical carelessness that the murder of a police officer was nothing, it might be due to some private grudge; no one says that now. It is felt now that it is the definite policy of the murderers to hamper Government by killing its servants. The evidence of this is only too complete; more and more Bengalis are learning to admire those of their fellow-countrymen who, well knowing the risk they run, are with silent courage doing their duty, in fighting the spirit of rebellion which must be checked if Bengal is ever to win respect. What was brought out in the Barisal Conspiracy case must have astonished many of us. It was shown then how carefully the foes of Government have planned; how well they hope to organize themselves; how they aim at getting hold of impressionable boys in the schools and colleges; and how with that object they try to get their sympathizers admitted as school teachers. Nothing should make us more concerned for the future of Bengal than the knowledge that purely seditious doctrine has been surreptitiously taught in schools and colleges whose record might be thought to place them above suspicion. The use of fire-arms cannot be denied; the extensive theft of pistols and cartridges which occurred in Calcutta two years ago, gave the revolutionaries a great advantage of which we know they have widely availed themselves. Our enemies are many. We have not only to fight the actual murderers; we must overcome the organizer who, under the guise of some innocent profession, controls and advises bolder men who will dare to do what he himself fears to do: we must meet and overcome those who abet crime, those who keep the pistols, those who keep the bombs, those who keep the money to be used in promoting crime, more important perhaps than

anything else we have to frustrate the aims of those who provide meeting places, and an asylum for the plotters. Even those who actually commit the serious crimes are not all of one kind—some are hardened, thoroughly ruthless ruffians, others are mere tools for whom one cannot but have some pity.

These are the men whom Government has to fight and whom the public should realize must be fought. I have not time now to remind you, as I would like to do, of all the steps Government has taken since 1908, but I would ask you to bear with me while I say something about the Defence of India Act, passed last year. Few, I think, deny that such an Act was needed; but there are those who say that the Act has been abused. Gentlemen, I say advisedly, I do not believe that the Act has been abused. I yield to no one in my regard for personal liberty in my jealousy for the supremacy of law, and I assure you that I do not believe that any step has been deliberately taken under the Defence of India Act, unless those who took it believed they were justified in taking it. Mistakes in some cases may have been made; where they were and Government realized them, Government has at once and quite openly corrected them. The Defence of India Act was passed because of the war, but it was passed avowedly to deal, among other things, with a situation in Bengal dangerous at any time, but far more dangerous while war is going on; and it would be criminal of the Government of Bengal if it did not make use of it. It is not our Act; it is the Act of the Government of India; the Government of India has wider knowledge than we have, but we are bound to act on our own knowledge in dealing with our own cases and we do. The Act was passed to give Governments power to deal promptly with crimes; the chief use we have made of it in Bengal has been in the internment of suspects. I do not think any one can truthfully say we have been unduly severe in our treatment of them. It was often stated that when a person's means of livelihood are stopped some compensation should be made. We have done that. Allowances have been given to 164 persons out of 229 who are at this moment interned. These allowances vary from Rs. 8 to Rs. 87. They run for the most part from Rs. 20 to Rs. 50—only six are below and only two above those amounts—they are made with discrimination for the public purse must be considered. In comparatively few cases application for a compassionate grant was made on behalf of the families of those interned, and in 12 of these after enquiry an allowance was granted.

It is often said that persons who are interned do not know what they are suspected of, and have no opportunity of giving any explanation. This is not now true: though it was partially true for a time. Every person interned is told in general terms what the allegations against him are: they are told wherever possible, without causing risk to the lives of others, of the facts which seem to our officers to tell against them and they are asked to explain them if they can. It is true that much of the evidence against them is not such as could be brought forward in a court of law; if it were they would be brought before a tribunal. We have a right to bring them before a tribunal; possibly we might, if we were less scrupulous, bring more cases before a tribunal;

but we are right, I think, to be scrupulous. To bring case before a tribunal when it would be a mere case of heads I win, tails you lose, would not be just, for we could quite lawfully go on intern<sup>ing</sup> them. To be just is the paramount duty of Government. In every case where a man is intern<sup>ed</sup>, an officer, who by his position is eligible to act as a High Court Judge, and whose reputation for fairness seems to the Governor in Council unquestionable, has examined all that the police have to say and has pronounced that he believes there are sound grounds for suspecting that the man whom it is proposed to intern has been guilty of the crime which the police believe he is guilty of. The evidence sometimes, indeed often, must be that of informers; sometimes it is the statements made by persons who are themselves intern<sup>ed</sup>. It is clear, I think, to all that in the present state of affairs it would not be right for Government to publish information of this kind; to do so might easily be to risk the lives of their informers, and we have a duty even to informers. That the crimes with which the intern<sup>ed</sup> persons are suspected of being connected are not trifling, is certain. Eleven of these with whom we have dealt with are suspected of being themselves assassins, of having been knowingly abettors of assassination; 16 of being privy to dacoity in which there was assassination; 15 of not only having been party to assassination, but of having organized other serious crimes; 7 of having been assassins, dacoits and organizers; 9 of having been connected with a conspiracy planned by Germans; 85 of having taken part in dacoity; 34 of having themselves joined in dacoity as well as having organized crimes, and 71 of having been organizers of serious crime. There is not a single person who has been actually dealt with under the Defence of India Act against whom the police have not produced evidence sufficient to lead a man of mature judicial experience to say that there is good ground for believing that he probably has taken some part in one or other of these crimes.

That the revolutionary movement is widespread is clear, for apart from two who do not belong to Bengal at all, the persons intern<sup>ed</sup> in the Province to-day come from 17 different districts:—

50 belong to Calcutta; 30 to Mymensingh; 25 to the 24-Parganas; 23 to Faridpur; 21 to Dacca; 11 to Bakarganj; 11 to Pabna; 9 to Jessore; 8 each to Nadia, Howrah and Tippera; 7 to Hooghly; 5 to Khulna; 4 to Noakhali; 3 to Malda; 2 to Rajshahi; 1 to Midnapore, and 1 to Chittagong.

Internments have not been asked for hastily and blindly as some suppose. If that had been the case, the police would have seized a large number of those whom they looked on as suspects immediately after the passing of the Act. Instead of that there were only 22 orders passed in May 1915, and only 48 others in that year altogether.

The mass of the orders have been passed in this year. One in January, 27 in February, 37 in March, 52 in April, 22 in May, 23 in June, 3 in July and 43 in the first 15 days of this month: 278 in all. That gives you the total number of orders passed. It is a larger number than that of those intern<sup>ed</sup>, for it includes absconders and some who have been dealt with by ordinary courts or under the Regulation of 1818. The explanation of this is that the police are carefully sifting



their evidence, that every time they have made a seizure of any number of those whom they suspect, they have secured, sometimes from statements made by those taken, and sometimes from documents discovered in the houses or on the persons of those taken, further evidence which involved others. It is true that in many cases our police have, for a long time, suspected some of those who have only lately been proceeded against, but in those cases it is only more recently that the grounds of suspicion became so strong or so numerous as to warrant them in taking action. I need, I think, say no more, gentlemen, but to assure you that I believe that our police have now got a clearer idea than they ever had before as to how the crime is organized,—and a correcter knowledge of who the criminals are; and that as each day those whom we suspect or who know themselves to be criminals realize more clearly that we are not following a wrong track or acting blindly, the chances of our successfully grappling with them become greater. Every day we get more information, often from entirely fresh sources; almost invariably we find that that information confirms what we already possess. Some of those whom we believe to be our worst enemies have for long been in hiding, this is not in itself a proof of guilt, but it is a fact, which certainly does not decrease suspicion. Recently we have, in increasing proportion, been able to find those who have been in hiding, and they have not explained with any appearance of truth why they were so. Government will go on in its endeavours; we know we are handicapped, but we feel that the handicap is growing less. The most serious thing we have had to face hitherto has been the general disbelief in the existence of the crime; that disbelief is breaking down. The greatest help which we could have would be, if the educated people of Bengal, who love Bengal, should be publicly believed, to hate this class of crime. They have all along said they hate it; for my part I believe they do hate it. But I can say from my own experience that there are many Bengalis who do not believe that the hatred of their fellow-countrymen for this crime is as genuine as I believe it is. It seems to me that this is probably due to their not realizing as fully as they should what the true facts are. I have done my best to tell you what the true facts are. It is on these facts that the other peoples in the Empire will form their estimate of you, and on that estimate to a great extent must the future of Bengal depend. As you love Bengal, and as you love India;—for the future of India must be affected by the action of Bengal—I would once more appeal to you to do each of you what you can—to give the British peoples and to give your fellow-Indians a true idea of Bengal! You will do this I am sure, if you can only succeed in convincing your own fellow-countrymen that you really do hate and detest all that takes away from the fair fame of your motherland.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Dacca Ramkrishna Mission,  
on 24th August 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

The character of our meeting this morning has come upon me as a surprise. I had imagined that my visit would be of a purely informal nature and that I should not have to make a speech. I thank you for having gone to so much trouble in arranging for my reception; and although speech-making is not a thing I must like, I am very glad too to have an opportunity of acknowledging the good work done by many members of the Dacca Ram Krishna Mission, and I am glad too to be associated with your work by performing the opening ceremony of the new Surendra Prosad Ward.

The members of the Ram Krishna Mission are actuated by that spirit of helpfulness which is so much needed in this world: the spirit that makes men ask themselves the simple question—can I help? and which makes them say “If I can it is my duty to do so”—the spirit which leads to social service without any thought of caste or race or creed. The members of the mission work in this spirit for the spiritual, intellectual and bodily good of their fellowmen. They hold religious services helping men to realize that personal relation of man to God, which is the foundation of religious devotion: they conduct schools for the elementary education of the masses, and they maintain this hospital for the relief of human suffering: and their spirit of helpfulness carries them further: it takes them out into the highways and byeways of life seeking to help the poor and the sick and the helpless. All honour to them in their work.

The land upon which the buildings are situated is, I am told, the gift of my two young friends Romesh and Jogesh Chandra Das. To them and to Babu Mohini Mohan Das the mission has reason to be grateful; and now Babu Sarada Prosad Ray Chaudhuri of Kassimpur (of whose generosity I was glad to hear much when I visited Sabhar two years ago) has given the mission this indoor hospital which I have just opened and which is to be named after his son—the “Surendra Prosad” Ward.

***His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of the Prize Distribution at the Sutrapur Tol, Dacca, on 24th August 1916.***

PANDITS AND GENTLEMEN,

It will give me very great pleasure indeed to distribute your prizes. I have visited the Sutrapur Tôt twice before, and if my coming here to-day is taken as evidence of my continued interest in Sanskrit education, I am glad.

It is nearly four years since I made the acquaintance of the Addhyapaka. Since then we have often met and I have learned from him of the progress of the institution.

Many officers have interested themselves in this work, and have lent the learned Pandit a helping hand: and I am glad that he counts me among the number of his helpers.

Amar ar apanader balibar kichu nai. Banger chatushpati shamuher shamyak unnoti hoyuk, ebong Sanskrita sikkha ar'o bistrita hoyuk, ihai amar ekanta basona.

---

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented at Bhattapur,  
on 28th August 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for this cordial welcome. When your Commissioner, Mr. French, passed on to me your kind invitation to visit Bhattapur, I accepted it gladly, not only because it gives me pleasure to acknowledge public-spirited generosity such as that of your fellow-countryman Babu Shama Charan Bhowmic, but also because in so doing I should have another of those opportunities which I value so much of seeing something of parts of the Province which are not ordinarily visited by high officials.

I acknowledge with pleasure your expressions of loyalty and devotion. As I said in Durbar at Dacca only a few days ago,—the great struggle of the nations which is being fought out in the Western world, has made India and England realize more clearly,—their attachment to one another: it has made Englishmen value India more and it has made Indians realize better what loyalty and devotion to their King-Emperor really means.

I have read of the ancient glories of Sonargaon and wish it had been possible for me now to visit the ruins of this ancient Capital of Eastern Bengal. The ruins of these ancient capitals—Gaur, Pandua, Sonargaon—are reminders of the transitory nature of man's occupation of this earth and teach us not to lay too great store by pride of rule. The only true memorial of a generation's greatness is the influence for good which it transmits to the generations which follow it—and in forming such influence acts such as that which I have come here to acknowledge are a factor of no little importance.

Babu Shama Charan Bhowmic is presenting to the District Board not only this building which I am about to open to accommodate a new charitable dispensary, but he has also given the site upon which the building stands and a sum of Rs. 5,000 towards a permanent endowment. In the name of Government I thank him for his liberality and commend to you this example of a man ready to give what he can for the benefit of his fellows. I hope to be able before I leave to visit the public library which the same generous donor has given to the people of this place.

In your address you rightly seize the opportunity of bringing to my knowledge two local needs. The first of these is the deepening of the Menikhali Khal. Questions of deepening khals similar to this one have been examined by me on various occasions. At first it seemed to me a simple matter to give an order to the Government Engineers to dig out earth from the bed of the khal sufficient to make navigation throughout the year possible: but the Engineers soon pointed out to me the great cost of such an undertaking and what is far more serious the transitory nature of the benefit, unless a large sum is spent every year on clearing the silt which will quickly collect again. These great river countries are even yet but imperfectly understood, but one fact seems certain, that we

cannot conquer nature in one short battle; unless we are prepared for a continuous struggle, the fight is useless. Government has not the means to maintain a continuous struggle in all these khāls, and so nature has to be left to take its course. I have consulted Mr. Hart regarding the Menikhali Khal; he tells me he went into the question with the District and Superintending Engineers and he found—as I have often found in other places—that it is impossible to achieve any permanent good with the resources at our disposal. I am sorry, but I can't help it. The other need to which you refer is that of a road from Munshi Rail Bazar *via* Bhattapur to Badyer Bazar Steamer station. The body best able to deal with this proposal is the Narayanganj Local Board, and I would advise you to bring this need to the notice of its members.

Once again, gentlemen, I thank you for your cordial welcome. It gives me great pleasure to open the Bhattapur Charitable Dispensary and I trust that many generations will reap benefit from this centre.

***His Excellency's Speech at the send-off to the Bengali Regiment,  
on 6th September 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

I shall not keep you long. I only want to say a few words to congratulate you and to wish you every good fortune. You have come forward willing to serve your King-Emperor and your country in a cause which you believe is a good one and which I believe is a good one, and I most sincerely wish you every good fortune, as I would wish it to many young men in all parts of the British Empire who are doing the same. I congratulate you, as I would congratulate many young men in all parts of the Empire, because you have come forward and in doing so have shown that you recognize that you owe a duty not to our King-Emperor only, but to our fellow-subjects, and that you are willing to discharge that duty. We all owe that duty—I hope we all recognize that we owe it, but it is not possible for us all to show, as you have done, that we owe it. You are fortunate in being able to show it; I feel sure you think that, and if you do, I feel sure you won't want to have much said about it at any rate in your presence. But there is a special reason for congratulating you. You are the first body of Bengalis to whom the privilege has been given of going to serve as soldiers. Hitherto it has not been thought that the people of Bengal were suited to be soldiers—there is nothing to be ashamed of in that. There are many people who, for one reason or other, are not suited to be soldiers—I am one myself and I expect there are others on this platform who would say the same thing of themselves. The Army must, to a great extent, be run on business lines. It has to be paid for out of public money, out of the taxes, and it is the duty of those who spend the taxes to see that they get for the public good value for their money. It is, therefore, not a thing to be wondered, still less a thing to be grumbled at if those who are responsible for finding soldiers for the Army have not tried to recruit in places where it has been the general opinion that it is not very easy to find soldiers. None of us can deny that among Bengalis themselves the general opinion has hitherto been that Bengal is such a place. I know that there have been some—at any rate ever since I have known Bengal—who have fretted at that view; and I have all along sympathized with them. These were glad, and I was glad, when it was announced that the Government of India had sanctioned the formation of a double company in Bengal. It may not seem a great concession to make; in peace time it would seem a very small one; but this is war time, and we must remember that to many people it seems a very unusual and perhaps even an unjustifiable thing that Government should be willing to make what we must all admit is an experiment and take and train some men as soldiers, *on the distinct promise that when they are trained they will be sent on active service* even though they belong to a race who have not up to the present been looked on or who have not for the most part themselves claimed to be particularly suited for fighting. It is an experiment—admittedly an experiment;—and there is only one thing

which can justify it; that is if those who go make the experiment a success. As the Viceroy said yesterday considerable public interest has been aroused by the sanction for the formation of the double company. That is why I specially congratulate you. You will not have an easy time—probably to many of you it may seem a very hard time, especially at the beginning—during the period of your training, but all the same I congratulate you, for you are knowingly incurring a great responsibility. What you do, or do not do, will bring credit or the reverse, not on yourselves only, but on the whole of your fellow-countrymen. You, I fancy, believe—if any one believes—and many believe it, that Bengalis ought to be given a chance of showing that they can do well in warfare, as they can do well in peace. It lies with you to secure them that chance. I believe you will rise to your opportunity; that you will show that not only can your people be brave, as many people know they can be, and this is of much more importance, and is not so often believed, but that they can also submit to discipline.

Again to quote His Excellency the Viceroy: "The Bengali Stationary Hospital recently broken up rendered admirable service in Mesopotamia and its record there was one of which the promoters of the scheme may well be proud."

It is for you to do equally well. You are being given a chance, a chance which many envy, but which, I hope, none grudge you. Hundreds of young men have been and are being trained as you are going to be trained; but have no certainty—many of them have very little hope of seeing active service—they must be kept probably for long if not for the whole of their service on some of those thankless unexciting but often unpleasant jobs which many soldiers know only too well. You have been promised that when you are trained you will be given what all soldiers long to be given a chance of going on active service. I am glad you have been promised this—I feel sure you will show yourselves worthy of it. That is why I specially congratulate you. Once more in a word I wish you well.

---

***His Excellency's Speech at the Arts and Crafts Exhibition, Darjeeling,  
on 25th September 1916.***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am glad to see so many of you here. Your presence augurs well for the success of the exhibition. There are not so many exhibits this year as there were last year, but Mr. Percy Brown—who judged them as well as now and so ought to know—tells me the standard of work this year is distinctly higher, this, especially so in the exhibits from the schools. He thinks, and I hope he is right, that last year's exhibition has had the effect of stimulating both the children and the teachers to greater efforts. I am not going to tell you what to look for. Each of you will like to find out the best things for yourself—and to see whether you agree with the judges. I do not suppose you will agree in every case—I know I never do—but when one does not, it is interesting to try to realize why a man with the skill and expert knowledge of Mr. Percy Brown should make a mistake. Sometimes when one does this one feels that the judge has not made a mistake after all; and in any case it is well to remember that it requires some training to appreciate works of art fully. There is one thing though at an exhibition like this; even the most ignorant of us get some pleasure; for we are sure to see some portraits or landscapes which are not only pleasant to look at in themselves, but which recall to us happy moments spent in the company of delightful people or among beautiful surroundings. There are days when it is even nice to be reminded of Darjeeling rain; and for my part I am always glad when anything helps me not to forget the outline of Kinchinjunga. Here you will find pictures of both those subjects, besides other pleasing landscapes—portraits of favourite dogs and horses, miniatures of charming ladies—all these will give pleasure. I am sure you will be glad to find that the army is so well to the fore. At least two Generals show us that they are also artists. One of them has gained the prize for the best picture in the exhibition. The prize, too, for the best water-colour other than one which has been judged to be the best picture goes to a gallant Major. I hope, too, you will be pleased with the paintings by small children. I noticed one of a spider by a little girl of five! and there are many others which show that the children are learning to use their eyes and their hands in a way which will increase their intelligence and their capacities in many other walks of life. I hear it has been suggested that perhaps next year the exhibition might be held in Calcutta instead of here, and that in future it should be held in alternate years in the two places so as to give a larger public a chance of seeing what is done, and give the artists to a better chance of selling their works. It seems to me that it is a very good suggestion.

I shall not keep you longer, but now declare the exhibition open.



***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize Distribution at St. Paul's School, Darjeeling, on Friday, the 20th October 1916.***

MR. BENSON AND BOYS OF ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Before saying any thing else, I would like to congratulate those to whom I have just given prizes.

This is by no means the first visit which my wife and I have paid to St. Paul's School, but it is true that it is likely to be our last. I am sorry in many ways that it is so: we shall not soon forget the glorious view from this site,—unparalleled I fancy among school sites,—and we shall often look back with pleasure, mingled perhaps with regret, on the happy afternoons we have spent on the playground of St. Paul's, watching your sports and games.

I was glad to hear from Mr. Lyon that he has no doubt that the numbers in the school are higher this year than they have ever been. This points to successful work, and I most heartily congratulate the Governors and the Rector and his assistants, for I know they have had to face great difficulties. Mr. Benson has told you of his difficulties in getting commodities. One commodity which I believe he finds it particularly hard to get at present, is schoolmaster. But although this is a time of special difficulty—it is also a time of special opportunity. Mr. Hornell has spoken of the work which lies before those who are in the schools of the British Empire to-day. It is an inspiring thought which he put into our minds. Each pupil can look forward to taking his share in that great reconstruction of the Empire which will assuredly have to be carried out after the present war is over. The boys of European blood, born in India, of whom Mr. Hornell spoke, have never failed to do their best in times of national need. The boys of the La Martinière played a worthy part at the Siege of Lucknow—a very creditable number of old St. Paul's School boys are now serving with His Majesty's Forces. I am confident that you, too, will be ready and willing to do your share when the time comes.

I shall soon be going away, giving place to another Governor who will, I hope, take a keen interest in your school.

While I have been here I have tried to do what little I could for those boys who have a Western parentage, but whose parents cannot afford to send them to a Western land for education. I shall leave Bengal feeling confident that the topmost school on earth has a bright future before it, and that you will prove worthy of that school. In bidding you farewell I need only say to you—with regret possibly, but certainly with no spirit of misgiving—"God-speed."

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented to him by the Commissioners of the Darjeeling Municipality, on 31st October 1916.***

MR. RANKIN AND COMMISSIONERS OF THE DARJEELING MUNICIPALITY,

I thank you for giving my wife and me this opportunity of bidding the residents of Darjeeling farewell, and I thank you for the more than kind words which you used about us.

Ladies and gentlemen, I well remember our first arrival in Darjeeling. The town was not exactly looking its best when you welcomed us on the Chowrasta. It was raining, and though I was told that rain was badly wanted for the tea, and that therefore the fact that I brought rain with me was most auspicious, I confess I was just a little disappointed. Since then I have seen Darjeeling under many aspects. At times it has been gloomy enough. Darjeeling rain and Darjeeling mists can depress one's spirits as no Scotch mist—not even an easterly haar in the Lothians—can; but Darjeeling sunshine raises one's hopes more rapidly than any other sunshine that I have ever felt; and Kinchinjunga, when sunlit and towering above the clouds, or seen by moonlight from Observatory Hill, convinces one, as nothing else which I have seen in nature does, that to despair is both needless and wrong. During these last five summers we have seen much that is lovely, much that is interesting. From the top of Tiger Hill we have more than once in each year seen the sunrise—a sight which no one who has seen it can ever forget: we have visited tea gardens: we have spent happy days in Kalimpong, and we have been royally entertained by His Highness in Sikkim. To me one of the greatest charms of Darjeeling has been the freedom with which I was allowed to walk about in the streets and bazars. It was a real pleasure to Lady Carmichael and to myself to move amongst the people without any restraint. While doing so we have made many friends, not only amongst the Europeans and the Indians who come up here from the plains as visitors, but also amongst all those various races whom you mentioned, amongst the Bhutias, the Lepchas, Tibetans, and Nepalese. It was a delight to us to get to know something of the handicrafts of these peoples, and to pick up many charming examples of their skill as well as to make a collection of the smaller fauna of the district. It was in the hope of encouraging that skill and in the hope of helping some of our visitors to appreciate it, and to feel the same pleasure which I have myself derived from learning about the birds and insects and other creatures of the district that I had the new museum built. I cannot help here saying in a word how much I owe to the late Mr. Möller: he taught me what a lot there is to see here—he was in every sense of the word a real friend.

I was glad to hear that you think we are leaving behind us some tangible proof of our interest in Darjeeling. I know what Local Self-Government has done for other countries, and I believe it will do much for India. It is gratifying to find that you appreciate the extension of the elective principle to this municipality and that you believe it is working smoothly and satisfactorily.

I have tried to make the station pleasanter by extending its roads, and to make it a better health resort by improving its water-supply, its hospitals and the Lewis Sanitarium. I had hoped to do much more in these ways, but the financial restrictions of the last two years made the fulfilment of my hopes impossible. You spoke of your desire for a new Town Hall. I agree with you; I think the present Town Hall, in which I have had many a hearty laugh, is quite unsuitable. The sale which you wish to carry out will, I hope, go far in helping you to erect a conveniently situated building where you can have your municipal offices as well as a hall for public meetings. Your scheme has my fullest sympathy and I sincerely hope it will soon be successfully completed, though I fear that the financial restrictions to which I have already referred must prevent Government from making at present the contribution which I should like to see it make; still I trust the Government of Bengal will continue to be a reasonable Government; and if so, it will, I feel sure, give careful consideration to such a reasonable proposal as yours.

Your reference to nursing in the Victoria Hospital has, I feel certain, given Lady Carmichael much pleasure. Ever since she came to Bengal she has been trying to do what she could for the improvement of nursing; and I am glad that what she has done here is appreciated. I know she trusts you to go on cordially supporting the work she has begun, so that it may be put on a permanent footing and may confer lasting benefit on Darjeeling.

Darjeeling is deservedly a popular hill station, and I hope it will long continue so. I am afraid I cannot agree with those who profess to think that far more work is done in the hills than in the plains. In Bengal at any rate that is certainly not the case; if it were I do not think Darjeeling would be as popular as it is. When dealing with those files, from which there is never any escape, I have often wished that Darjeeling were nearer Calcutta, so that I might have got the information I needed quickly. But I was glad to be here for my own enjoyment and for the sake of my health; though I know that if I had been in the plains I could have done more work. I know, too, that many of my friends, especially of those who seem to me to work hardest, think the same thing: and I cannot see why we should not say so. Health and amusement are good things in themselves; they can be found up here, and they ought to be sought for, so that the work done down below may be all the better done. The Governor of Bengal, as Bengal is now constituted, has to divide most of his time between three Capitals; and I fear that the greater number of the days which he spends at Dacca must be days which he would otherwise spend at Darjeeling, and must not be taken from those he spends in Calcutta; for Calcutta after all is the centre of the business of our Government. For this reason my annual stay in Darjeeling has been rather shorter than that of some of my predecessors. It may be the same with my successor. If so, I hope the shortness of his stay will but enhance his pleasure when he is here, and his appreciation of this glorious panorama—when the clouds permit him to see it. Sir Joseph Hooker, as I dare say you remember, wrote in his fascinating Himalayan Journal that the

opinions of those who resort to Darjeeling in health differ. He said that those of active mind invariably and thoroughly enjoy it, while the mere loungers or sportsman mopes. A Governor must almost perforce be of active mind; so I have little fear on my successor's behalf; even if he should not be in good health I do not think he need shirk coming here. One is often told that Darjeeling is somewhat trying to the heart. I know from personal experience that it is so; but if any man has once been here I think his heart will have to be very susceptible indeed before he shrinks from coming back;—perhaps owing to that very susceptibility he will be more eager to return! At any rate I know it would not be the fault of Mr. Rankin, or his colleagues or of Mr. Price and Mr. Kirby, if my successor does not like Darjeeling. They will do their best for him, I am sure, as they have done their best for me; and, if he is wise enough to consult Mr. Price, he may twice in each year return from Lebong a richer man than he goes there.

On behalf of my wife as well as for myself I thank you for all the friendship you have shown us throughout five summers. In our home in Scotland, or wherever we are, we shall always remember you with the same kindly feelings which I know you bear towards us. Good-bye.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the Anjuman-i-Islamia at Darjeeling, on 31st October 1916.***

MR. ALTAF ALI, AND MEMBERS OF THE ANJUMAN-I-ISLAMIA OF DARJEELING,

Both Lady Carmichael and I thank you for coming here to bid us farewell. When the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shamsul Huda told me some time ago that you would like to do so, I readily agreed to meet you, for I appreciated the kindly thought which prompted the suggestion. I am very sorry that the Hon'ble Nawab Sahib is not with us just now. I heard that he meant to leave for the plains, and I tried to arrange an earlier date to suit his plans, but much to my regret I found that that was impossible and I feared he would not be in Darjeeling to-day. He did go down; but came back though I know it must have been at great inconvenience in order to give me one more proof of his friendship, and I am truly grateful to him. My gratitude makes me all the more grieved at the reason which has prevented his coming here now. I am sure that we are all sorry to hear that the Nawab Sahib is ill and that we all hope he may soon be restored to health.

Few of you perhaps realize how much the Hon'ble Sir Syed has done for Government during the past five years, or how hard he has worked in the interests of Bengal. The full value of his labours, as so often happens in the history of administration, may not be generally realized for a long time; but his colleagues know it, and I gladly bear testimony to it. He has indeed been your friend!

One, especially of the many kindnesses which the Nawab Sahib has shown me, comes into my mind just now. It was he who took me to see the Jumma Musjid and so brought me into touch with the members of the Anjuman.

I am glad you were able to come to an agreement about the plot of land opposite the *musjid*, without having recourse to the law courts; this settlement has opened the way for you—and I hope the Anjuman will now go on developing those activities to which you have referred—your guest house, your schools and your other works of benevolence.

I am not sure that want of capital is not in some ways good for a religious and charitable foundation, for it is often a stimulus. It is frequently said in my own country that a Church never does so much good as when it has a debt to wipe off—and it may, perhaps, be the same with mosques in India. In any case you have very some level-headed Cashmires amongst your community and I am sure that they will ably second the enthusiasm of your esteemed President—Maulvi Nasiruddin Ahmad.

I thank you for your kind references to my administration of the affairs of this Presidency. The time comes to every Governor when he has to retire, and when his friends not unnaturally feel that they would like him to remain with them longer—for they know that his knowledge and sympathy will be lost to them. You feel that about me now; and I thank you for feeling it. I hope that I have learnt during the last

five years to understand Bengal, at least to some extent. But when your new Governor comes you will soon get to know him, and he will soon get to know you. It is hard at times for the Governor to understand—and it is often even harder for him to make himself understood. I know that from experience; and just because I do know it, I am able to assure you that it may be greatly to the advantage of Bengal that my successor should come here in time to learn something of the feelings of the people of Bengal and of the true nature of its problems, before he is called on to deal with those questions which are bound to come up after the conclusion of the war, on the solution of which so much of the prosperity and happiness of the people of this Presidency will depend. The solution, in its larger aspect at any rate, will not lie with us alone, perhaps it will not even lie chiefly with us—but I hope most sincerely that in Bengal the Governor and the people will work together. They can only work together if they understand each other well enough to trust each other, and to believe that all are doing their best, even though they do not see eye to eye in everything. Such understanding cannot be reached in a day, and while I am heartily grateful to you, and to very many others in Bengal, for the kind thought which prompts you to wish that I was not going away; while I am prepared to do anything which our King-Emperor may call on me to do, and while I can say with truth that I can conceive of no more interesting or more useful task than that of being your Governor, I can say with equal truth that I honestly believe that, for the sake of Bengal, it will be well if my successor is given an early opportunity of learning what Bengal really is.

Gentlemen, I think I have said enough, and we must be going on. Once more I thank you for your kindly feelings towards my wife and towards myself. We shall often look back on the days we spent in Darjeeling with satisfaction, but with some regret that those days are gone. It is pleasant to know that some of you may share in that feeling of regret. We both hope that all the members of the Anjuman will prosper; and it is in a very genuine spirit of friendship that we now wish you good-bye!

***His Excellency's Address at the Opening Ceremony of the Hart Cottage, St. Andrew's Colonial Homes, Kalimpong, on 8th November 1916.***

DR. GRAHAM, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Both my wife and I are glad to be here once more, though in all probability it is for the last time. We must soon leave Bengal; barely five months in India remain before us now, and those months must be spent in the plains—almost entirely in Calcutta. While we have been in Bengal it has always—for many reasons—been a great pleasure to us to visit Kalimpong, and I am glad that the last function which I am called on to perform in the hill district of the Presidency should be to open this new cottage—Hart Cottage. It is exactly a year ago to-day since I laid its foundation-stone, and I congratulate Dr. Graham and all of you on having got it finished so soon. You have one advantage over people at home: your masons are not stopped by frost, so you can get building done more quickly than they can.

Last year Dr. Graham and Mr. Shannon told us about Mr. Hart,—how he was a pioneer of the tea industry in Sylhet and Cachar and how he always thought it right to spend some of the money which he made in India for the benefit of India,—and so generously left the sum required to build this cottage. I remember referring to his son, Mr. Jack Hart, and saying that he was serving his country at the front. I am sure we are all glad to know that the report which reached Mr. Jack Hart's mother and sisters saying he had been killed was incorrect, and that, though they may still be anxious about him, their grief has been turned into joy. It is hard for us here in this peaceful country among these quiet hills to realize what the war means; even though we know that more than 60 old Homes' boys have gone to serve at the front; and that others are eagerly waiting till they are able to go. It is probably impossible for any of us to realize at all adequately the horror of what is going on just now in so many parts of the world—in Europe—in Mesopotamia—in Africa. But when we do hear that some one of those whom we knew and loved, or of those whom our friends knew and loved, has been killed or badly wounded, the truth does to some extent come home, and we sympathize with the common sorrow which fills so many hearts to-day.

This is by no means the only cottage which I have seen grow up here in the last five years, it is not the first cottage which I have declared open myself. I do not believe it will be the last which you will see. Dr. Graham says he still wants more cottages; I think he says he wants six. I hope to hear of them all being built, and that before very long. To tell you the truth I should not be a bit surprised if before these six are quite finished; Dr. Graham were to realize that he wants even more, and if he does I believe he will get them. Last year I spoke of Dr. Graham's habit. I said it was a good habit and one to be encouraged. I think more and more people are learning to feel that. We need only come here and see what has been done, and then listen

to those who tell us what used to be said at the beginning—even by people who admitted Dr. Graham—in order to realize that he is a man who deserves to get his way. When I first came to Bengal many people used to say to me that they feared Dr. Graham was going too far, that he was putting up too many houses, and that some day he would find that he could not keep them up. I don't hear so many people say that now—partly perhaps because they know the idea gets no sympathy from me, but also and I hope more because they realize that Dr. Graham is right. Dr. Graham is using all his efforts in the right way; he is making something which is worth keeping up, and which people feel is worth keeping up. The bigger Dr. Graham's scheme becomes—the more cottage homes there are here, as long as there are children to fill them, the more certain I hope we may be that the money needed for maintenance will be forthcoming. The subscribers to the Homes are not confined to any one creed or country, but the very name—St. Andrew's Colonial Homes—involves a special claim upon Scotland and upon the Kirk of Scotland. As long as that Kirk exists,—and she is not going to die yet,—and as long as there are Scotsmen who, though may not belong to that Kirk, still admire her for what she has done in the past and is doing, we need have no fear. Even if it be only because of that carefulness in money matters for which my countrymen are so often blamed—not me, I am afraid I am never blamed for that—quite the other way—even if it be only because of their closeness, if people like to call it that, and because Scotsmen would think shame to let so much good money be wasted, I believe Dr. Graham will get what he needs; and I believe after Dr. Graham has gone his work will get what it needs. This very morning I was reading the proof of the next number of the St. Andrew's Colonial Homes Magazine in which Dr. Graham has set forth quite clearly and quite simply, under 14—I think it is—headings the more immediate needs of the Homes, in order to give the necessary information to those who have the power and will to supply them. Dr. Graham is not “blate”: he does not shrink from big figures: he says he *needs*—mind you, *needs* not merely wishes for—three and-a-half lakhs for capital expenditure and an increase of about Rs. 35,000 in annual subscriptions. That would stagger many men, but it does not frighten Dr. Graham; he simply asks for it, in the faith that he will get it, and knowing that all he has asked for before, and got before, has been well spent. And ladies and gentlemen, I am glad to hear from Dr. Graham that the money to supply some of these needs—and especially to supply what is perhaps the most urgent of them—is already beginning to come in even before it is asked for. I was glad—and so I am sure were you—particularly glad to hear just now from Dr. Graham that my friend,—your neighbour,—Tobgay, has generously promised to spend a large sum in building something here at the Homes, in memory of his father Raja Ugyen whom we all liked and honoured so much; and there are other promises of help—so there is hope.

Now I am afraid I have kept you too long. I must be quick and throw the door wide open. But before I do so I must thank you for giving me this key, it is in itself a beautiful proof of the value of Mrs. Graham's energies in another direction; and I must also—though



only in a few words—thank you all for the kindness which you have shown to me and to my wife. While in India, while doing or trying to do one's work here, one often meets with disappointment and one often feels tempted to despond; at such times it has been no small thing to think of Kalimpong; or to have seen in the distance, from Darjeeling, these white houses shining in the sun, and to have known that there was no despondency here, but that work is being done here which is admittedly good. And I must ask those of you who were not lucky enough to be born in the right places to forgive me—I am sure you are generous enough to do so—when I say that at times it was a comfort to think that so many of those who were doing the work came from lands far apart from each other, both differing widely in many ways from India, but in both of which I believe men and women are developing the qualities most needed to help India, and which will serve best to bring East and West together in one closely united Empire—from Scotland and from Australia.

***His Excellency's Speech at the laying of the Foundation-stone of the Carmichael College, Rangpur, on 10th November 1916.***

MR. GUPTA, MAHARAJA, RAJAS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Before I say anything about the institution which we have met to inaugurate, I would like—as His Majesty's representative in Bengal—to thank Mr. Gupta for the assurance of devotion and loyalty to the King-Emperor to which he has just given expression on behalf of the people of Rangpur. It is indeed a wonderful fact—and one which gives us cause for deep thought—that while the great struggle for freedom is devastating so many countries in Europe and draining the blood of so many nations, here in India all is peace and His Imperial Majesty's Indian subjects are able to live their usual lives. This fact not only shows that Indian loyalty is a genuine loyalty, but is in itself the greatest proof which the world has, perhaps, ever had of the value of sea power to a nation: it is, therefore, meet and right that we should have in our thoughts at this time those brave men who are risking their lives—and those who have already given their lives—to protect the shores of the United Kingdom and to keep open the highways of the sea.

As Mr. Gupta has reminded us, it is just three years since I visited your town and district for the first time. You told me then in your address of welcome of your aspirations to have collegiate education at your own doors, and I promised that Mr. Hornell, whom I am glad to see with us to-day, should examine your scheme and report on it to Government.

These three years have not been wasted, and when I think of the magnitude of the scheme and the difficulties which had to be overcome, I heartily congratulate Mr. Gupta, the Board of Trustees and the various Committees on the success of their endeavours and the attainment—in part at least of their ambitions. The outbreak of the war was indeed a sad blow; the dislocation of trade and the restrictions of both public and private finances, which it caused, would have deterred most people—at least for a time—from persevering even in so laudable an object. But your enthusiasm has carried you beyond these difficulties. Mr. Samman has told me that “the scheme has aroused a local enthusiasm such as I do not remember ever before to have seen displayed over any educational or other schemes in any district in the Presidency.” Although your contributions to funds connected with the war have been most generous,—they include a donation of Rs. 50,000 made by Raja Mohendra Ranjan Ray, of Kakina, to the Bengal Ambulance Corps Fund,—you have been able to contribute no less than four lakhs of rupees to the building of this college. When I was here before I referred to the most liberal gift of a lakh of rupees by Babu Ananda Mohan Ray Chaudhuri who, I am very sorry to hear, is unable to be present to-day owing to illness, and now Mr. Gupta tells us of a equally munificent

gift from Raja Gopal Lal Ray, of Tajhat,—and of a further half-a-lakh from that generous patron of education, Maharaja Sir Manindra Chandra Nandy, of Cossimbazar. I congratulate you all on this example of local enthusiasm, public spirit and generosity in the cause of education. You certainly have not allowed the grass to grow under your feet—for last February you had only a little over a lakh. You have raised all the rest since then.

You have had to modify your original scheme: for you have found that it will not be possible at present to provide instruction in the Honours Courses; and the teaching of Science, the equipment for which is necessarily much more expensive than that of purely literary subjects, will have to be confined—I sincerely hope only for a short time—to the intermediate stage and will be in one subject only—Chemistry.

Rangpur is favourably situated for collegiate teaching: the district is now well served by railways and the town is, I am told, much healthier than it was 25 or 30 years ago. The only other first-grade colleges in Northern Bengal are those at Cooch Behar and Rajshahi, there seems, therefore, to be every reason for hoping that this college will lessen the stream of students which pours every year into the already over-flowing student area of Calcutta. I can well believe that the people of Rangpur appreciate the possibility of obtaining a college education for their sons nearer home, away from the temptations and dangers of a great, and to many of them, an unknown city.

This site, too, is spacious and healthy and offers every facility for development. I was most interested to hear what Mr. Gupta said about the prospect of making a sheet of water where swimming and boating will be enjoyed by the students.

The ideal you have set before you is a high one—a model college, entirely residential, where professors and students will live and enjoy a healthy, physical, social and intellectual life. Keep that ideal before you, and do not let the glamour of a wider affiliation than you can afford tempt you from it. Do not relax your efforts, but concentrate them on the attainment of your ideal with the affiliation you at present aim at. Your funds do not as yet permit you to build the whole of the hostels which will be necessary—I am glad by the way to learn that the District Board have promised you assistance in this matter—but concentrate your resources on making this institution really a model residential college.

What Mr. Gupta has said about the loan of a member of the Indian Educational Service for the post of Principal shall certainly not be forgotten. I wish it were possible for Government to help you in this matter at the present time, but it is not. Much will depend on the choice of the Principal, and in spite of what you say regarding his remuneration, I trust you may be able to obtain the services of a first class man willing to give his service to his country in supervising the

training of her sons. So far you have shown that you are self-reliant. I hope you will continue to show it, and not lean too much on Government. Government in one way at any rate is like Providence. I used to be taught when I was a small boy in Scotland that I should always trust in Providence, but that I should remember that Providence is never any the worse of a helping hand. Government can certainly often help you, but you can generally help yourselves even more effectively.

I gladly accede to your request that the college should be called after my name: I am proud indeed that you should wish it to be so. It will now give me great pleasure to lay the foundation-stone of the Carmichael College, Raigpur.

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Industrial Exhibition at Rangpur, on 10th November 1916.***

LADIES, MAHARAJA, RAJAS AND GENTLEMEN,

Mr. Gupta has given us a very practical and clear statement of the objects of this exhibition. I am sure we are all grateful to him for doing so. I know I am very grateful, for I feel that I ought not to try to say much to you for fear lest I should take your thoughts away from what Mr. Gupta has said. I am glad the District Board has chosen this time for holding the exhibition; by doing so they have given me an opportunity not only of seeing it, but also of expressing a hope that District Boards in other parts of Bengal may be willing to help the agriculturist and artisan in as practical a manner as the Rangpur District Board is doing.

In a district like this the vast majority of the people live by agriculture and anything which helps them to increase the produce of their lands will do more for the prosperity of the district at an early date than any new form of industrial development. In India, the introduction of agricultural improvements is heavily handicapped. The ordinary cultivator has little or no capital; this no doubt is common in other countries; everywhere such a man has to borrow money in order to effect improvements, but the difference in India, as compared with most other countries, is that the cultivator here has to pay very high interest on the capital which he must necessarily borrow—25 per cent. or even more—and many improvements from a public point of view and in the true sense of the word are not improvements from the raiyat's point of view, for they do not yield enough returns to cover the interest which he pays on the money needed to effect them. I hope that in time the spread of the knowledge and practice of co-operative credit will make it possible for many cultivators to obtain money at a much lower rate, and that they will then make use of implements and manure in a way which it is not possible for them to do at present. It seems to me, however, that there is one great means of improvement ready to hand which does not call for a large outlay of capital; this is the use of selected seed. If, for example, our Agricultural Department can produce, in sufficient quantity, a paddy suited to Rangpur conditions which will yield a heavier crop than the seed generally used at present, the gain over the whole district in a few seasons will be very great. I believe you will find in the exhibition to-day evidence that Mr. Milligan and his colleagues have achieved something in this direction.

In several countries—notably in Ireland—much has been done to improve the conditions of the country people by the development of what are called “Home” or “Cottage” industries, which give employment not only to men but also to women and children in their own homes. I am inclined to think a good deal may be done in this way to help people in India. I have come here from Kalimpong where Mrs. Graham has shown in a most practical way that much can be done in the hills around there. I believe there are some workers from Kalimpong

here now. I do not know how far the conditions of the cultivators of Rangpur lend themselves to such a development: but from what I have seen of the cultivation of paddy, I think there must be many days in the year when the time of the cultivator and his family is not fully employed, and if a way could be found of helping them to employ this time profitably, it would probably add to the prosperity of the district.

The work of the artisan may not be so important as that of the cultivator to the district as a whole—but the number of artisans scattered up and down in the villages is by no means a negligible one. A large proportion of them are employed in aiding the agriculturist and their prosperity increases with that of the cultivator. Many of them make the articles in common use, and some produce ornamental wares. These latter are, perhaps, the most difficult class to help, but I believe much could be done for them by making cheaper capital available to them, and even more by finding markets where they could sell their wares, many of which are beautiful in themselves and could not fail to be admired by many persons who up to now have never even seen them.

An exhibition such as this is serves to focus everyone's thoughts on the best way of attaining these ends—it spreads a knowledge of what already exists and what is possible. Such knowledge is the first essential if we are to attempt to solve the industrial problem in any district.

The promoters of the exhibition have greatly added to the public interest by the organization of lectures and demonstrations. I am specially glad to hear that fishery affairs are to be spoken of. In Bengal a great deal could be done, I feel sure, to develop fisheries; and I am glad to know that attention is being drawn to the instruction of the deaf and dumb. Lamentably little is done in India for the deaf, or the dumb, or for the blind; and anything which stirs the public up to a knowledge of its responsibility to these unfortunates is commendable.

I congratulate Mr. Gupta as President and Mr. Dass, the General Secretary, and all those who have helped to organize this exhibition which I have now great pleasure in declaring open.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Ceremony of laying the Foundation-stone of the Varendra Research Society building, Rampur Boalia, on 13th November 1916.***

MR. SARAT KUMAR RAY, MAHARAJAS, RAJA SAHIB AND GENTLEMEN,

It was a real pleasure to me to accept the invitation of the Varendra Research Society to come here to-day to lay the foundation-stone of their building.

When I visited Rajshahi three years ago, I heard of the work of the society, and, as you know, I visited the collection you then had. I was astonished at what you had accomplished, and I was greatly impressed with the possibilities of such a society in Rajshahi. I therefore encouraged you collectively and individually, and the response to the encouragement which I gave has surpassed all my expectations.

In India, there is a great field for historical research, much of it untouched, and one of the richest parts of this field is to be found in the "Barind"—the *Varendra* of ancient days. After the century of anarchy which, as your researches here have shown, followed on the death of King Harsha in 646 A.D. or thereabouts, one of the local chiefs in this district founded a powerful Bengalee dynasty which gradually extended its conquests north, south, east and west, till it became one of the greatest powers in India; and for four and-a-half centuries that dynasty—the Pala Dynasty—ruled over this empire. To quote Mr. Vincent Smith: "The Pala Dynasty deserves remembrance as one of the most remarkable of Indian dynasties. No other royal line, save that of the Andhras, endured so long, for four and-a-half centuries. Dharmapala and Devapala succeeded in making Bengal one of the great powers of India." Only the skeleton of the history of this long-forgotten empire has as yet been reconstructed; but as has been acknowledged by Mr. Vincent Smith in the latest edition of his "Early History of India," the labours of the Varendra Research Society during the last six years have been largely instrumental in this reconstruction; and I trust that you will gradually recover much of the material which still lies hidden in these districts of the Barind of which Rajshahi is the centre, and may so be able to fill in the details needed to complete our knowledge.

The progress made during the last 70 years in the recovery of India's ancient history has been one of the triumphs of historical scholars. Elphinstone in his *Classic History of India*, published in 1839, wrote that it was impossible to attempt any "connected relation of national transactions" in India "until after the Muhammadan conquest" and Professor Cowell repeated the caution when he issued a new edition of the history in 1866. But I do not think any one would assert that now. The Archæological Department of the Government of India, the establishment of which was one of the great things which Lord Curzon did for India, has, under the able direction of my friend Sir John Marshall, done marvellous work during the last ten years in recovering these records of the past; but the field of Sir John Marshall's labour is the whole of India and his helpers are few. Meanwhile in the Barind with the advance of cultivation, especially under

the Sonthals,—who, though wonderful pioneers, are not interested in archæology,—there is a real danger of old sites being lost and of the tablets which bear the ancient records being destroyed for ever. It is here that a society like yours can render valuable service. The members are on the spot: they know the country and the people: they can recover these archæological treasures with the minimum of friction, and they can bring them together for study by others. The work which your society has done in the short space of six years, shows what an immense field there is open to enthusiastic scholars. The researches of some of the members of the Varendra Research Society, especially of the Director, Babu Akhoy Kumar Maitra, and of the Secretary, Babu Rama Prasad Chanda (whose recent erudite work on the Indo-Aryan Races many of you have no doubt read), have made your society's name known far and wide. Without their scholarly guidance the society could have done little, and without the generous aid of the Vice-Patron, my friend Mr. Sarat Kumar Ray, it could have accomplished nothing.

I am glad to hear that you are co-operating heartily with the Archæological Department. Sir John Marshall is your friend: his ideals and yours are the same. It is your interest to help him and it is his interest to help you. There is no need to fear any jealousy. The aim of all archæologists is to retrieve the records of the forgotten past: but it is essential that their work should be done under expert guidance. All archæologists are familiar with sad blunders made by amateur searchers in Egypt, and I have no doubt similar blunders have been made in India. So long as your present Director is in charge and your present Secretary is at the helm—I feel sure your efforts will be well directed and that your work will be conducted in close co-operation with Sir John Marshall and largely under his advice.

I wish the society every success. I hope you will send me your publications after I leave India, for I should like to follow closely the discoveries which I feel certain lie before you.



***His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of laying the Foundation-stone of a Middle English School at Sardah, on 14th November 1916.***

MAJOR CHAMNEY AND GENTLEMEN,

On each occasion when I have visited Sardah I have looked in at the little school and wondered how it was possible to teach under the conditions which I saw. I am, therefore, very glad indeed, to be able before I leave Bengal, to lay the foundation-stone of what I hope will be a modern up-to-date building suitable for teaching in.

Government has collected together in this spot a large number of men and their families and as the spot—though beautiful and I believe healthy—is nevertheless far removed from educational facilities for the young, a responsibility rests on Government to provide a good school in a healthy building so that the children of the officers can begin their education while still under the control and influence of their fathers and mothers. I am glad to think too that the accommodation which the new school will afford, will enable the benefits of the institution to extend beyond the training college to the villagers around.

I fully endorse the sentiments expressed by Major Chamney and I trust that the boys who pass through this school, will be brought up, in the best traditions of their class and the precepts of their religion, with a love of their motherland and with a spirit of loyalty and devotion to their King-Emperor.

***His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of opening the Sardah Police College Hospital, on 14th November 1916.***

MR. GUPTA AND GENTLEMEN,

The history of Sardah has interested me greatly. Major Chamney has told me about it on the different occasions when I have visited the college. The property appears to me an excellent one and the site on the bank of the river is certainly very beautiful. I am glad to think that it has been found possible to utilize the buildings which the decline of the silk industry had rendered useless for the purposes for which they were designed.

I think that the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam did a very sound thing when they acquired this property for the Police College and Training School. The situation is in many respects ideal for such an institution. The locality is healthy, it is far removed from the evil influences of great towns, and there is ample scope for that physical recreation which is so important to the cadets and pupils.

At the same time the isolation of Sardah has brought with it special responsibilities. At the ceremony which we have concluded, a very short while ago, I referred to the responsibility for the education of the children. There is another responsibility, and that is the care of those of the large community here when they fall sick. I had not realized till to-day what a very large population there is collected round the school, and this hospital will, I feel sure, be a great boon to them. But I hope that it will be possible for the influence of the hospital to spread beyond Sardah to the people of the villages, far and near, and that it will bring a measure of untold blessing to many who would otherwise have to go without that relief from suffering which modern medical equipment can provide.

I have great pleasure in declaring the hospital open.

***His Excellency's Speech at Sardah Police Training School,  
on 14th November 1916.***

MAJOR CHAMNEE AND GENTLEMEN,

This is the third time I have been here. The first time I got to Sardah so late that I could do no more than make a speech to you. The second time I stayed long enough to see you at your ordinary daily work, and I again made a speech, in which I said to you, among other things, that wild horses would not drag me into making another. Perhaps you wonder what brings me back, and in particular you may ask why I should worry you by addressing you again.

I have come because I want to see for myself how the Police College and School are getting on; and I speak to you because I think it only fair that the Governor of Bengal, when he is here, should say a few words of encouragement to you who are going to help future Governors of Bengal to do their duty.

This College and the Police Training Schools are comparatively new institutions. Twenty-five years or even more must pass before they can have their full effect; but competent observers tell me that they have already had an influence for good on the force, and that the improvement which they have brought about during the past four years is such as to justify Government in hoping for great things when every officer shall have passed through the Police Training College, and every constable through one or other of our schools.

I believe that there are some men who seem to be intended by nature to be police officers, but probably there are very few, and the ordinary man who chooses the police as his profession needs an early grounding in the principles and practice of police work if he is to make a success of it; and in any case the profession is one in which more, perhaps, than in most others character counts. Here, at Sardah, if you take advantage of your opportunities, you will get that grounding, and you will build up for yourselves strong independent characters. You will learn, I hope, to be proud of the service to which you belong, and to resent the action of any member of it who by misconduct brings a stain upon it.

If you do learn these things, I have no fear but that in the end your country will be proud of you.

There are many ways in which a man can serve his country: the way you have chosen—joining the police force—is by no means the least onerous: and it is by no means the least difficult. We have all of us heard it said that "A policeman's lot is not a happy one." This was first spoken no doubt in jest, but it is sometimes true; and I fear it is only too often true in India. There are many occasions when a police officer's motives are likely to be misunderstood: and much good work done by the police is never known to the public. On the other hand, when the bad work of an individual officer or of individual constables is brought to notice—either in the courts or in the newspapers—people are apt to overlook the fact that the particular case of which they hear or read may be an isolated one, and to condemn the whole force because of

something which has been proved, or sometimes even only alleged, about one man or at most about a few men of the rank and file. This is not unnatural; it is the same all the world over; it may not be desirable to encourage it, but it is most desirable that we should not be discouraged by it. We know that our police force has had a bad name in the past,—and we have to admit that this was not without reason. We must recognize that we cannot change that bad name for a good one all at once; the change can only come gradually; and I fear that the judgment by the public of the whole force is quite certain to be harsh for some time to come. If we allow ourselves to be discouraged by this harsh judgment, even when we feel that it is unjust, we shall allow ourselves to be defeated; and will encourage the very thing which we ought to overcome. People tell me—both officers and non-officials—that there has been an improvement in the police, and I am sometimes a little surprised to find that writers in the Indian Press, who usually are quick enough to see the virtues of their fellow countrymen, do not appear to recognize this. It is from one point of view a great compliment to British Administration that they do not; for it shows that public feeling expects a high standard as the result of that administration, else, they would not be so quick to criticize the faults of a service which is so overwhelmingly Indian.

At the same time the Government, whose servants you are, has—by what it has allowed in the past—incurred a grave responsibility. It is not part of the duty of the police to lay down a policy for Government: Government has no right to throw its responsibility on to the shoulders of the police. Government is responsible for the administration of the country: the police are its servants. Government entrusts the police with the maintenance of law and order, and with the prevention and detection of crime under existing conditions and under the existing laws; but the police are not responsible for the policy which has led to the condition of affairs at any particular time: and they are not responsible for the form of the law. When the failure or apparent failure of the police is due to conditions brought about by the policy of the administration, or is due to defective laws, the police are not to blame: it is Government which is to blame and which the public ought to blame.

This consideration should affect the attitude of Government not only towards the public, but also towards its police officers. There ought to be sympathy on the part of Government with the public and there ought to be sympathy also on the part of Government with the police; in both cases the sympathy should be founded on knowledge—and above all should be just. The responsibility rests with Government to encourage the force by publicly recognizing the good work done by any of its members. It has been with this object that I have made a point, whenever possible, of personally presenting Police Medals and rewards for specially meritorious service. It was with this object that my Government lately published the commendations by the Secretary of State of the work done by the Bengal Force in fighting revolutionary crime. A responsibility also rests upon Government to see that everything possible is done to alter any conditions which

tend to lead to crime; and if existing laws are defective, it is the duty of Government to amend them and to pass any new laws which seem necessary. Furthermore it is incumbent on Government to see that the force is adequately recruited, is efficiently trained and equipped, and is properly paid. But Government has also a responsibility to discharge to the people. It has to see that oppression by the police is stamped out and that any dishonest conduct is rigorously punished. The maintenance of discipline is essential and it should be the policy of Government, "to wash their dirty linen in public" as little as possible. But at the same time whenever public confidence is shaken, through charges made against the police, whether in the courts or in the newspapers, it is the duty of Government and particularly of the Governor to sift these charges thoroughly, and to satisfy himself either that all is well, or that steps have been taken to set matters right. No question of the "prestige" of the Government or of the police should deter the Governor from this duty. But it is not always in the public interest that it should be made known publicly how this has been done. To decide in each case how far it is advisable to make it known is one of the most delicate questions which at times perplex a Governor; he has to do his best to form a judgment and he can only hope that the public trust him enough to believe that it is an honest judgment. The prestige of the Government and of the police is dependent on the confidence which the people place in them, on the determination of Government to punish wrongdoing, and on the determination of the police not to shield the wrong-doer.

The situation is specially difficult when accusations are made against the police by Judges in court, for Government has then two duties to perform which, to the public, may seem antagonistic. The Executive has no right to revise the findings of a Judge. It ought not even to appear to criticize a Judge's words; but at the same time it is its duty to see that justice is done to its servants. The police are responsible for the detection of crime and for marshalling the facts in a case for the law officers, but the law officers are responsible for the way in which facts are presented to the courts; and it has sometimes happened that when the police were condemned the fault, when there was a fault, has lain with those whose duty it was to conduct the case; again it sometimes happens that witnesses who are honestly believed by the police and by the law officers to be true witnesses are not believed by the courts; facts which were not known at the time of a trial, have occasionally been discovered afterwards and have established the truth of evidence which appeared inconclusive or even improbable when it was given; and I am sorry to say that I have myself known of more than one case when witnesses have given evidence in court which differed widely from that which they had furnished to the police for submission to the law officers before the case came up for trial. The establishment of implicit trust in one's judges is one of the first essentials of good administration; and it may well be that the Executive Government ought to refrain from stating publicly all that it knows about cases such

as I have mentioned, lest it should seem to show want of confidence in the judiciary. When this happens the police have to suffer in the public interest. But our police may rest assured that justice will be done them by Government, and if Government, for reasons which it thinks good, does not vindicate them publicly they must accept this,—as the police everywhere have to accept it,—as part of the difficulties of the work which they have undertaken.

It is to assure you who are entering upon a police career of my sympathy with you in your work, and to encourage you in the enthusiasm which I have seen you display so eagerly here in Sardah that I was willing to address you to-day. I want to remind you that, great as may be the difficulties of your career, disheartening as the attitude of the public towards you may be at times, you will, as police officers, have more opportunities than many men have of serving the country which you all hold so dear, and that if you continually keep a high standard before you, you cannot fail to have some success in using those opportunities. Some day I hope the Bengal Police will be trusted by the Bengali people in a way which seems hardly possible now; that day will come when the people are convinced that the police are honest and upright, brave and intelligent. You can have no nobler aim than to hasten the arrival of that day; you can do no finer work for your country than showing to your countrymen by your own individual example that Bengalis even when they have to do disagreeable work, and work which their countrymen are inclined to dislike them for doing, can yet act in accordance with those high ideals which the best Bengalis claim that their race has always upheld.

The way in which certain Bengali police officers have done their ordinary duty, calmly taking their lives in their hands, and quietly and steadily pursuing their task though knowing they would probably be killed while doing it, has struck many persons outside of Bengal, and has helped far more than any number of speeches could do to convince them that it is a libel to call all Bengalis cowards. It will be for you to drive that conviction home; and it may, I hope, be for you, by your honest and fair dealing, by your strict adherence to truth, and by your intelligence, to convince your own countrymen that it is an even grosser libel to assert that any large body of Bengalis can be guilty of the evil conduct of which the police are sometimes accused. If you do that, or even partly do that, you will have done something for your country which is well worth doing, for you will have taught her sons no longer to look on crimes—or even on alleged crimes—with that careless indifference which deprives them of so much of the sympathy which they might win from others, and which might help them to attain a great deal that is worth striving for.

***His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of opening the Duff Girls' School in Balaram Ghose's Street, on 15th November 1916.***

MISS MERCIER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I do not propose to detain you for more than a few minutes for Mr. Ewan has kindly said that I need not make a long speech, but I want to take the opportunity of acknowledging, as Governor, the good educational work which the United Free Church Mission Council has, for a long time, done particularly for women in Calcutta, and of speaking a word of encouragement to those who are engaged in the work at the present moment. Being a Scotsman myself I am naturally proud—I hope not unduly so—of the achievements of my fellow countrymen and fellow country-women, and I am glad to be associated with good work done by any of the Scottish Churches. Your work is closely bound up with the aims of a great Scotsman—Dr. Alexander Duff. I remember that some years ago, when I presided over a meeting in Dr. Watt's garden in Cornwallis Square, at which some of you were present, I spoke of Dr. Duff and told you how some of my earliest recollections were connected with him, partly because of a Wee dog of which I was very fond who was called Dr. Duff, because he was such a good “beggar,” and partly also because of a tin-box that stood in my nursery into which I used to put pennies. Certainly Dr. Duff used his persuasive powers to some effect as far as Calcutta is concerned, and the institutions which were so largely made possible through his appeal will long be remembered with thankful appreciation in this city.

Miss Mercier has given us a most interesting account of the work of the Mission among the women of Bengal, of the early efforts of the difficulties faced and overcome, and of the success attained. I know that Miss Warrack is remembered with affection in many Bengal families: and the work of the ladies of the Mission in the zenanas is often spoken of with great appreciation by Indian gentlemen who come to see me. I have often heard of Mrs. D. M. Hamilton's work connected with this building.

It is my own conviction, and I find it is the firm conviction of many of the Indian leaders in Bengal, that the Bengali people will not attain full social and political development until the women of Bengal are educated to take their place alongside of the men. It may be a long time before this is brought about, but a great deal has already been done and the next generation will, in this matter, start from a much more advanced point than the present one has done.

For much of this the people of Bengal have to thank Dr. Duff and his successors in the Scottish Presbyterian Missions of the northern part of Calcutta.

No doubt there are difficulties before you, but they are not so great as difficulties must have seemed to be in Dr. Duff's time. The Mission has overcome many difficulties in the past, and I am confident will go on overcoming, in the same spirit of confidence, whatever difficulties arise in the future.

This beautiful building marks a great advance in the equipment of institutions for the education of Indian girls here. I have great pleasure in declaring it open, and I trust God may bless the work done within its walls.



***His Excellency's Speech at the laying of the Foundation-stone of Ramesh Chandra Datta Memorial Block in the Sahitya Parishad Buildings, on 20th November 1916.***

YOUR HIGHNESS,\* MAHARAJA, MR. SARADA CHARAN MITRA AND GENTLEMEN:

I thank the members for having invited me to assist at this function. I am glad to be associated with this extension of the premises of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and I am glad to have taken an active part in raising a memorial to Ramesh Chandra Datta.

In the work of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and of its daughter Society at Rangpur, I have been interested since my first year in Bengal, and I have done what I could to encourage the literary activities of the members. The present building is already overcrowded with the valuable collections the Society have brought together and it was a happy thought to co-operate with the Memorial Committee and to erect the memorial building as a home for these collections, and so leave the main building free for the other activities of the Societies.

I can imagine no more fitting memorial of Ramesh Chandra Datta and his work. The stirring and beautiful stories of the Ramayan and Mahabharat are known to many thousands of people in Western lands only through his excellent metrical translations. He opened up these gems of the literature of the East to the ordinary reader in the West: but he did much more than this: he revealed to his own people the spiritual riches of ancient India.

The building of which I have just laid the foundation-stone, will be the repository of a valuable collection of books and manuscripts the study of which will help others to follow in his footsteps. The Parishad has a wide field for research before it, especially in the historical investigation of the origin of the vernacular literature of this country. For long Ramesh Chandra Datta's History of the Literature of Bengal was the only work of its kind available to the general reader. The results of further study in this field have been made available to us by the publication of the learned and luminous lectures of Rai Sahib Dinesh Chandra Sen: and the researches into the origin of the Bengali language, which have occupied so much of the time of your learned Vice-President, my friend Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Hara Prasad Shastri (to whose address we have just listened with so much pleasure), have given us much new light on the early origin of the language. For long it was thought that the Bengali language could not be traced further back than the days of the renowned singer Chandī Das and his friend Bidyapati in Bihar: but Mahamahopadhyaya Hara Prasad Shastri, in his recent learned work, which I would recommend to your careful study, has told us of the discovery of examples of the Bengali language which were composed in the ninth century of the Christian era.

The younger generation of Bengalis have turned to the development of the language in the direction of novel writing, of philosophy and of history. In the direction of the history of the language and the literature, Rai Sahib Dinesh Chandra Sen has created the necessary interest by his typical selections and now Pandit Hara Prasad Shastri has shown where new materials are to be found. It remains for the members of the Parishad to follow this lead and to carry on the work in the same spirit of patient accurate research which these two scholars have shown.

I wish the members of the Society every success in the work they have before them.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Dalhousie Institute in connection with the Scottish Women's Hospitals, on 30th November 1916:***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have met here—on St. Andrew's Day, in obedience to a call addressed to Scotsmen and Scotswomen and to all who want to end the war;—in order to consider what part Calcutta is to take in the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service.

Most of us are Scots, and I am sure that all of us, whether Scots or not, want to end the war, provided only that it be ended in a way consistent with our ideals of national honour and national righteousness. Speaking for myself I have little doubt as to the part we intend to take. We made up our minds about that before we came into this hall. Much of the greatness of Calcutta has been due to Scottish effort; and if the Scotsmen and Scotswomen in Calcutta really feel that help ought to be given from Calcutta to any object dependent on Scottish effort, it seems to me almost inconceivable that that object can fail to get substantial support.

We know something of what has been done by Dr. Elsie Inglis and those who work with her in the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Some of us knew about the work and were proud of it before Mrs. Abbott came to Calcutta; more of us have heard of it in the last ten days from Mrs. Abbott, and we shall all be glad to hear of it from her again. What she has told and will tell us cannot fail to touch our hearts and win our sympathy. In asking us for money Mrs. Abbott has the fullest support of the Calcutta Caledonian Society. You know who the officers are who guide the policy of that Society. Mr. Beatson-Bell is its President and you know the others who support him. You know that if you give money to be spent as they ask that it should be spent, that money will not be wasted. This is a time when you are constantly asked for money, for no one perhaps has asked you oftener, or will ask you more often than my wife has done and will do. You know why she asks; and in your hearts you know she is right to ask. She is grateful to you both for what you have given and for what you are going to give and I, too, am grateful, for I feel that the subscriptions given to the Fund, which bears her name, cannot be too numerous or too large. I know the response to Mrs. Abbott's appeal will be generous; and I know that no one will rejoice more than Lady Carmichael will if it be even more generous than Mrs. Abbott expects. Dr. Elsie Inglis's work is done in the Scottish Women's Hospitals, but

it is not done by Scottish Women only. Other women besides are helping her nobly and unselfishly, and others than Scots have every right to be proud of it. Dr. Elsie Inglis and her fellow workers are relieving the anguish of men and women who are not Scottish, but whose sufferings it is the privilege, and it is the duty of Scottish people to try to lessen. We hope that others may contribute; if they do, we shall be grateful to them; but I shall be surprised if after we have heard what Mrs. Abbott will tell us, we do not feel that it will be a shame if the Scotsmen and Scotswomen of Calcutta allow many hours to pass before Mrs. Abbott gets the two lakhs for which she asks. That is my view, and in the hope that it may also be yours, I now call on her to address you.

***His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of the departure of the  
Calcutta Motor Machine Gun Battery, on 6th December 1916.***

OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE CALCUTTA MOTOR MACHINE GUN BATTERY,

I congratulate you and I wish you god-speed. In saying this I am sure I only say what every one who has thought about the matter at all in Calcutta feels.

We congratulate you because you are going to serve your King and country. You are more fortunate than many men, for you know for certain before you go that you will be given a chance of distinguishing yourselves. You have already I believe met with some difficulties and you have, to a great extent, overcome them. I am often told that people in Calcutta are good—better than most people—at getting money and at keeping it when they have got it. Two very good qualities—which although I fear I excel in neither—I thoroughly respect. You belong, I am proud to say, to Calcutta, and you have shown that you possess to a great degree the knowledge of how to get money.

Your difficulty has been that those from whom you have to get it also know how to keep money.

But Calcutta people are generous, and will give for a good cause. Those who should know best from expert knowledge, say you are bound to be of use; so those who can help to put you in a position to be of use need not hesitate, and I am sure will not hesitate to help you.

We wish you god-speed because you are going to do your duty, to do your best for your King and your country—for all of us. We are proud of you, because you are willing to go. We shall be even prouder of you when you come back. You will not all of you come back. We hope that those of you who will not return may be few—but it is not possible that all can return. You would not wish it to be otherwise, and we would not wish it otherwise; you are ready to take your chance each and all of you. You cannot do more and you will not do less. We who stay behind can only wish the best for each of you, feeling assured that each of you will do your best. Once more I wish you god-speed.

***His Excellency's Addresses to the Recipients of Sanads at the Durbar held in Government House, Calcutta, on 11th December 1916.***

**RAJA BAN BIHARI KAPUR BAHADUR, C.S.I.,**

I congratulate you very heartily on the bestowal upon you of the title of "Raja Bahadur." You have always been a trusted adviser of Government and are respected by all classes of the community. In recognition of the valuable services rendered by you as a nominated member of the Bengal Legislative Council and as Manager under the Court of Wards of the Burdwan estates, the title of "Raja" was conferred upon you in 1893. Ten years later, in 1903, your public services were further recognized by your appointment to be a Companion of the Order of the Star of India. Your philanthropic work in connection with the floods of 1913 was invaluable, and as a mark of appreciation His Majesty conferred on you the *Kaiser-i-Hind* medal of the first class. Your whole life has been one of faithful and unobtrusive public service ungrudgingly rendered, and you have fully earned the title of "Raja Bahadur," which I sincerely hope you may long live to enjoy.

**RAJA MANILALL SINGH ROY,**

I congratulate you very heartily on having received the title of "Raja" as a personal distinction. You belong to a distinguished Rajput zamindar family noted for liberality and public spirit. Your father, the late Babu Chhukkan Lal Roy, held the honorary rank of Major in the Calcutta Volunteers and was respected by Europeans and Indians alike. You received the title of "Rai Bahadur" in 1907, chiefly on account of your useful services as President of the Chakdighi Chaukdari Union. Your advice on the subject of village police has, on several occasions, been of great assistance to Government. You have always rendered loyal help to successive District Officers, and have set an excellent example to other zamindars by devoting yourself, with commendable energy and ability, to the propagation of loyal views, both among your social equals and among your tenantry.

**RAJA SATYA RANJAN CHAKRABATTI,**

I congratulate you very heartily on the title of "Raja" which has been conferred on you. You represent the principal zamindar family in the district of Birbhum. Your father, the late Maharaja Ram Ranjan Chakrabatti, was a good landlord and was noted for his liberality and public spirit. He received in succession the personal titles of "Raja," "Raja Bahadur" and "Maharaja" in 1874, 1877 and 1912, respectively. You are his eldest surviving son, and you have already given evidence of your desire to follow in your father's foot-steps.

**SHAMS-UL-ULAMA MAULVI MIR MUHAMMAD,**

I have great pleasure in presenting to you the Sanad of the title of "Shams-ul-Ulama" which has been conferred on you in recognition of your scholarship and learning in both Arabic and Persian.

**MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA PANDIT AJIT NATH NAYARATNA,**

You are one of the oldest and most respected of the Nadia Pandits, and have rendered valuable service to the cause of Sanskrit education in Bengal. It gives me genuine pleasure to present you with the Sanad of the title of Mahamahopadhyaya.

**MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA PANDIT GANA NATH SEN,**

You are an erudite Sanskrit scholar and have done great service to the cause of Ayurvedic Medicine by writing books in Sanskrit on Anatomy and Pathology. I have much pleasure in presenting you with the Sanad of the title of Mahamahopadhyaya.

**KHAN BAHADURS AND RAI BAHADURS,**

It gives me great pleasure to present you with the Sanads of your titles. I congratulate each of you heartily on the honour conferred on you. Khan Bahadur Haji Khundkar Fazl-ul Haq, Rai Ambica Prasad Sen Bahadur, Rai Sashi Bhushan Mazumdar Bahadur, Rai Lal Bihari Ganguli Bahadur, as officials, all of you have rendered meritorious service in your respective departments. Rai Tarak Nath Sadhu Bahadur, as Public Prosecutor, Calcutta, your services have been of great value. Khan Bahadur Abu Nasr Muhammad Ali, Rai Annada Charan Sen Bahadur, Rai Abinash Chandra Basu Bahadur, Rai Bihari Lal Addi Bahadur, Rai Satish Chandra Banarji Bahadur, the excellent work you have done as public servants has been fittingly rewarded. Rai Roma Prasad Mallik Bahadur, Rai Kedar Nath Banarji Bahadur, both of you have shown your public spirit by contributing liberally to objects of public utility.

**RAI SAHIBS,**

It has given me great pleasure to present you with these Sanads. Rai Sahib Behari Lal Sarkar, as Editor of an important vernacular newspaper, you have rendered great help to the cause of law and order. The rest of you are officials who have deserved well of Government, and I hope that your work will continue to be as valuable in the future as it has been in the past.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Durbar in Government House, Calcutta,  
on 11th December 1916.***

MY LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD, MAHARAJ-  
ADHIRAJA BAHADUR, MAHARAJAS AND DURBARIES,

This is the last time that I shall hold a Durbar as Governor of Bengal. Hitherto when I met you in Durbar here I said nothing beyond the few words which I addressed individually to those to whom I handed Sanads; but to-day I want to say some things to you, and I ask you to bear with me for a little while I say them.

The war which has been so much in our thoughts during the last twenty-eight months has brought about many results; and will bring about many more. Very few of us foresaw all these results; but there is one result which we all hoped for, and which I trust will be one of the most lasting: an increase in the mutual respect and friendship which alone can firmly bind Bengal and India to the British Empire and which will, I believe, ensure that India shall some day be as integral a part of the Empire as Britain herself is, or as the Dominions Overseas are. The war has taught us to realize more clearly than we ever did before that if the British Empire is to go on being the greatest power in the world for good, every part of that Empire—India no less than any other—must be allowed, and if need be helped, to develop to the full all that its people feel themselves capable of doing for the mutual welfare of the whole. There is encouragement in that thought, and for no part of the Empire is the encouragement greater than it is for Bengal. Many hopes have been raised, and when many hopes are raised, there is always risk of disappointment; for all men have not the same knowledge; facts which are well known to some are entirely unknown to others, and in any case, all men do not interpret facts in the same way; still, speaking generally, I believe we have a right to expect that when the war does end, an advance will be made in the direction which those with whom the ultimate control rests think that of progress, and probably we all hope that the advance will be along lines which we each for ourselves look on as those of true progress. I am not going to discuss what these lines should be; I only want to ask those of you who are looking forward hopefully to consider whether you cannot help to make progress easier, or at any rate to remove anything which hinders it. Whatever our individual ideas may be as to the direction in which we should move, whatever may be the ultimate goal to which we look, we shall surely all agree that enmity between the Government and the people is a hindrance: and that when such enmity exists we ought to try to understand its cause and to so modify things that mutual esteem may take the place of enmity.

• Some people, in a position to judge, say that there is much of such enmity in Bengal just now. I think they exaggerate, but all the same I feel that there is a risk—in more than one direction—of such enmity growing up. There is a risk undoubtedly in the way in which people regard the Defence of India Act, in the state of things which brought about that Act, and in the way in which the Act is administered. The danger is,



not as great as some people who have thought about it fancy, but it is far greater than many, who have as yet given no thought to it, know. It comes I believe, as danger so often comes, from ignorance. People are ignorant about the object of the Act, they are ignorant of what the Act has effected, and of how it is administered. The Act—which is not a Bengal Act, we have to take it as it stands—may not be perfect; very few, if any, Acts are perfect. It may not be perfectly administered; my Government is responsible for administering it and we may, in the light of experience, have to modify and improve our methods. We do carefully consider suggestions and we do from time to time modify our procedure.

There are many people in Bengal—Englishmen as well as Indians—who hardly realize as clearly as they should that the Act, though due to the war and though passed mainly to meet evils arising out of the war or connected directly with the war, was also passed in order to deal with a danger to society which existed in Bengal long before the war was even thought of by most people, and which may last and may even become worse, after the war is ended. I need not dwell on that fact; it is patent to all who read the speeches made during the passage of the bill through the Viceroy's Council; but I want to tell you that you will render a distinct service to Government if you point out to any one who is honestly ignorant of it, that the Act was deliberately meant to be used in Bengal against other enemies than those only, who knowingly help the foreign foes of the King-Emperor. It was meant to be used while the war goes on, and for six months after against those who instigate or who perpetrate the crimes generally spoken of as political crimes. There is a great deal of ignorance about these crimes, and it is this ignorance which I deplore. Possibly some of the ignorance is wilful, though I do not believe much of it is; most of it is natural ignorance and most of it has hitherto been unavoidable. I believe that if the people in general knew the nature and the extent of the crime, which the Act was passed to combat, they would gladly help in overcoming it. But it is only slowly and gradually that Government has learned the truth, and the people have as yet had no means of knowing at all accurately the nature and extent of the crime. They have known that certain crimes were committed—murders and dacoities for instance—they have known that Government professed to believe that those crimes were political—and, as a rule, I hope they thought we were honest in our belief. They knew of the crimes; but they saw no proof that they were all political; they professed, and I for one think they honestly professed, to doubt whether even many of them were so. Other and quite plausible reasons were suggested for the crimes and were accepted. That I think was the attitude of many of you in this Pandal, and it certainly is still the attitude of many intelligent and thoughtful men throughout the country. They have sometimes seen it proved in the courts that the crimes were committed by the persons accused by Government, but they have also seen accusations break down in Court, and they believe that Government has often—indeed they think as a rule—been unable to find any one whom it could charge with committing the crimes. From this they have concluded—not perhaps unnaturally—

that Government has been on a wrong track, and many people have gone further and have complained that Government, because it was on a wrong track, and because it looked on common ordinary crime as political, did not put down crime as it ought to have done. People have rated the crimes quite as much as Government officers did; they have feared the crimes; they themselves ran great risks from them, and they have sometimes felt a grudge against Government officers for not tackling the evil in what seemed to them a rational way. I know there is now a change of feeling. Many of you now think that possibly—some of you would go so far as to say probably—Government has been right in its theory. But I doubt if more than a few of you realize all that that theory implies, and if you did realize it, I do not know that very many of you would readily accept all our beliefs as well founded. I think our beliefs are well founded; therefore I act on them. I know that very few of those whom I govern hold those beliefs; therefore I am not surprised that many of them disapprove of my actions. I am sorry for this, but it is perfectly natural,—to a great extent it is unavoidable,—and I do not complain.

If you knew and believed the facts on which my conclusions are based, you would, I feel sure, come to much the same conclusions as I do. But you do not know the facts, and the pity of it is that I am not in a position to furnish you with them in the way which would best convince you. I, and my colleagues, believe that there is in Bengal a widespread well-organized conspiracy, whose aim is to weaken the present form of Government, and, if possible, to overthrow it, by means which are criminal. No British Government can complain if the people whom it governs wish to modify its form or to take any legal steps to bring about change. Government may regret such a wish; it may oppose changes in every legal way, but it will not be true to British tradition if it does more. But no Government, British or not British, can tolerate the use of crime to overthrow it or to weaken it; a Government which did that would be untrue to the people whom it governs. It is our plain duty to put down the conspiracy with a firm hand.

I believe and my colleagues believe that only too many men and boys are actively engaged in that conspiracy though with very varying degrees of complicity. We believe that there is one group—not perhaps a very large group—which forms so to speak the brain of the conspiracy. Its members instigate the crimes. They are men probably of keen intellect with much self-control and much force of character, and they may be idealists; their criminality may be in thought rather than in action; they may never have fired a pistol or used a weapon of any kind; they may never themselves have stolen anything; they may never themselves have profited by the result of crime; but they are most dangerous criminals, for they inspire others. If only those who constitute this brain of the conspiracy are once under Government control and rendered powerless to influence others, or if they once cease to exist, the conspiracy will die.

Then there is a group of men who are so to speak the hands of the conspiracy; men who actually commit the crimes; some of them have been accessory to murder; some of them have themselves

committed murder—in some cases more than once—and almost all of them have been dacoits. It is not always easy to say what their motives are; originally perhaps—we may give them that credit—they were actuated by what seemed to themselves and to their associates high ideals, but most of them have long since become common criminals. Whatever may be the ideals which actuate those who suggest the crimes, those who commit them follow for the most part the same impulses which lead common criminals to commit brutal murders and robberies. Greed, desire of gain, desire for reprisal or to protect themselves, it is these which make them ready agents to carry out the crimes suggested or planned by others; bold men they may be, even at times courageous, patient probably, and with the skill and cunning that comes to all whose hand is set against society. This group too is of vital importance to the conspiracy, for if all those who form it were caught or should cease to exist the conspiracy would, at least for a time, be powerless. Hands are as necessary to the conspiracy—if it is to do anything as its brain is. But the two groups are formed from different types of men, and recruits may, perhaps, be more easily got for the group who form the hands than for the group who form the brain. It is not that the qualities needed in the brain are rarer than those needed in the hands, among a people so quick-witted and of such subtle intellect as the Bengalis. Probably it is all the other way; but I trust I am right in believing that of those youths likely to be led astray from the right path there are fewer among those who could bring good brains to the conspiracy than among those who can become efficient hands; and as the truth becomes better known, I feel sure this will be even more so. But besides those whom I have described as the brain and those whom I have spoken of as the hands of the conspiracy, there is a large number of persons, many of them quite young men and boys, connected, though some in a much less degree than others, with the conspiracy. Many of these may almost be said to be innocent; others are nearly as guilty, from the point of view of the State, as those who form the brain or the hands; but they all help the brain or the hands. Some help in organizing the movement; they have no intention of ever committing a dacoity or a murder themselves; they have not the courage needed for that, but they make it easier for bolder men than themselves to do these things. They give or let out their houses as resorts to those who are engaged in crime; they help to arrange for the defence of any members of the organization who are prosecuted in a law Court. To my mind the worst are those who act as recruiters for the movement. These men gradually induce young men and boys, who have never looked on crime except with horror, to shrink from it less and less, and finally even to admire it and to assume a frame of mind that will eventually make them willing to commit it. Only too often these men are school masters and are thus in a good position to influence young men. They act in the most insidious way; they use the noblest part of a boy's nature as a means to their end; they work on his feelings of patriotism, on his unselfishness, on his willingness to help suffering. These recruiters are enemies to their own country; and it is about them that there is the greatest ignorance.

It is their guilt which is most hard to prove. They act, necessarily—in a hidden way; they have to practise deceit, and they teach deceit. They have their difficulties; they have to undermine the loyalty taught by fathers and guardians, and they have to overcome the natural aversion to crime of the youngmen themselves. What we know of them we have learned almost wholly from those whom they have led astray, but who have often too keen a sense of honour and are sometimes too frightened to tell all they know. In attaining their end they use terrorism as well as persuasion; and I feel certain, I am sorry to say, that they often seize the opportunity which membership in a charitable society like the Ramkrishna Mission or participation in the relief of distress gives them to meet and to influence boys who have noble ideas, but who have not enough experience to judge where a particular course must lead. I have the highest respect for the Ram Krishna Mission and for societies like it. I know of nothing more worthy of encouragement than the social service which these societies exist to promote, and there is nothing in India which I deplore more deeply, or of which it has been harder to convince me than the fact that mean and cruel men do join these societies in order to corrupt the minds of young men who would, if only they were not interfered with, be benefactors to their fellow-countrymen.

Such societies naturally attract public sympathy. People think that all who take part in their work must be good men. Parents are glad to see their sons joining them little thinking that in doing so they run the risk of becoming enemies to their country. You can do no greater service to your country than by trying to prevent these societies being used by those who are doing such infinite harm, not only to Bengal, but to all India. One step leads to another; an innocent boy, full of the spirit of self-sacrifice and of devotion to his motherland, anxious to do something to make his fellow-countrymen happier and better, is employed, perhaps as a messenger; he may have no idea of the character of the messages he is taking, but in taking them he gets to know persons who are themselves steeped in crime, who want to implicate him in crime and who do their best to implicate him in crime. When he finds out the truth he may wish—such boys have I know often wished—to escape, to give up evil practices, but then comes in the terrorism; he is threatened; it is pointed out to him that he has taken an oath—that is their custom—to serve the conspiracy; he is told—he is shown evidence to convince him—that the conspiracy is more powerful to hurt than Government is, for it can give information about him if it likes, to the police; and it can bring about his death if he offends it. Boys are thus led to give up all hope of reform: they are induced to play some small part, merely perhaps that of a watcher in a dacoity; they then take a larger part; gradually they become dacoits, perhaps even murderers.

That is the risk which many young men in Bengal—the sons and relations of loyal men—of Government servants—sometimes of my own friends—undoubtedly run. I absolutely believe this and I shall act very wrongly indeed if I do not do all I can to stop it. I am sure that you will think that Government assuming for the moment that things are as I believe they are, can hardly be too stern in the measures which it takes

against the brain or against the hands of the conspiracy, and particularly in stopping the machinations of the recruiters; and if you think, as I fancy you will, that Government ought to be tender in dealing with those poor boys, whom I have described as being often thoughtlessly, sometimes unwillingly, caught in the toils of the conspirators, I shall not disagree with you. But if you think the matter out, you will, I believe, admit that until the really wicked dangerous people are under control, Government will not act fairly by the mass of the people, if it refrains from any measures even those which seem somewhat severe, which tend to break up that part of the organization which helps the dangerous men and which is used as a recruiting ground to swell their ranks. In the interests of the boys themselves, and still more in the interests of other boys, who are their comrades in innocent occupations, and who may, therefore, easily become their comrades in what may lead to guilt, we must take steps to prevent those who are not yet hopelessly involved in crime, but who certainly are dangerously near being involved in it, from running further risks or from doing, even if unwittingly, harm to the public weal.

You may say—many have said to me—why does not Government prove the truth of its belief to the public in the way which everyone, however, reluctant to accept the evidence, would feel to be convincing; by bringing and winning a case against the conspirators in a Court of Law. You are right to ask that; and if I only could, I would try to prove the truth in that way. But I frankly confess to you that up till now Government has not been able, and perhaps for a long time yet may not be able, to do so for the reason that the evidence on which our belief rests, though to my mind clear, and in some respects overwhelming, is not evidence which we can even put forward in a Court of law.

It is not only, or chiefly, the evidence of Police officers or of ordinary informers. Far the greater part of it is that of men who admit that they themselves have taken a share in the crimes or in helping others to commit the crimes. It has been given to us in such a way and in such circumstances that Government cannot, in common fairness, nor in common honour, use it in a Court against those who gave it or against their associates; and apart altogether from common fairness and common honour the law, or, at any rate the practice of the Courts would prevent its even being tendered. I quite believe that if the evidence were made public, even though it were not used in an attempt to secure punishment for any one, it would, to a great extent, convince the public of the existence, and magnitude of the danger. Some day it may be possible to make it public; but that time is not yet. There is a grave risk, probably more than a grave risk—a certainty—that if we were to publish in detail now what we know, some who have given us information and some who have not given us information, but who could have given it, would be made to pay for it perhaps with their lives. Some of you know that that is true. Only a few days ago I spoke to one of you, one who has influence, who has eloquence, and who knows how to use both, and who, I believe, hates the crimes as much as I do; he told me that if he were to go as he would like to go, to certain

places in Bengal, and were to denounce the crimes publicly as he would like to denounce them, he would do it at the risk of his life; and I told him that that is not a risk which he ought lightly to undertake, and is certainly not a risk which I ought to ask him to undertake. The responsibility lies on my shoulders and those of my colleagues to do all we can to put down the crime; and we have no right to try to shift any portion of that responsibility on to any one, especially if he is in a weaker position than we are in to meet the hostility which the responsibility may evoke. That, gentlemen, is the reason why Government cannot under present circumstances adopt some very attractive suggestions which have been made to us.

I believe that we cannot stamp out the evil by executive methods alone: we must have popular opinion with us; we cannot have popular opinion with us unless we induce the people to think, somewhat at least, as we think; and I fear we shall not do that until we can publicly prove that facts are as we believe them to be. That we shall prove this eventually I have no doubt; but we cannot do so yet; all we can do just now is to indicate the nature of our conclusions, and to ask you to believe, if you can conscientiously do so, that our conclusions may be well founded.

It has been the Defence of India Act which has enabled us to form our conclusions; had it not been for that Act, had it not been for the action—harsh action some of you call it—which we took under that Act, we should not have gained the knowledge which has, I honestly believe, enabled us to prevent crimes and which will, I hope, help us to prevent yet more crimes and perhaps to get rid of the conspiracy altogether. The Defence of India Act aims at the prevention of crime rather than at its punishment: and as a preventive Act it has been a success. I confidently assert that it has saved Bengal from much crime and from much suffering which that crime would assuredly have brought on.

I do not admit, I do not believe, that we have administered the Act harshly; neither do I admit nor believe that we have administered it weakly.

I know there are people who think that we ought to have arrested or taken steps against a large number of persons at an early state, perhaps even as soon as the Act was passed. The people who think that are wrong in thinking it. If we had arrested, or had taken steps against, a large number of persons at an early stage, we could only have done so blindly; we might by chance have got a few real criminals, but we should certainly have hurt a number of harmless and even completely innocent people; and, what perhaps some of those who make the accusation of weakness against us may think worse, we should have done nothing against most of those who are, we now feel sure, a danger to the State except to have given them a warning which would have helped them to elude us; while we should have made many people feel that we were unjust and should have secured for crime their sullen, though perhaps silent, sympathy. Knowledge slowly and gradually gained through the use of the Defence of India Act has given us a sure,

foundation of our action, and we have a right to feel satisfied that we did not act in a hurry, and therefore did not act unjustly, but are acting effectively.

As I said a few minutes ago our administration of the Act may at times have to be modified ; it must be adapted to circumstances as they arise. As our knowledge becomes more complete and as we get more control over the most dangerous of those with whom we are contending, we shall be able rightly to refrain from using our full powers against those who are less dangerous. Some of those with whom we are contending are implacable enemies of the State, whom it is humanly speaking impossible to reclaim ; against these we must exercise our fullest powers,—we should be wrong to do otherwise ; but there are others who may, I hope, sooner or later be reclaimed, and I assure you that Government does not lose sight of that fact. Government does discriminate and does treat one individual differently from another when it believes it safe and wise to do so.

There are many other points on which I should like to speak to you, but I must not take up more of your time. I will only remind you that a Government, though it may be powerful and successful, can never from the British point of view be a good Government, unless it is trusted by the people, and I beg you to think whether you cannot use your influence, not only to prevent people from coming to hasty conclusions, to which they would not come if they had fuller knowledge, but also to prepare the way for a fair and full consideration of the question which must in any case come up after the war, and which I personally think cannot come up too soon, the question of how to alter a state of affairs under which so many of our most thoughtful and best intentioned youngmen are ready to tolerate—some of them even to join, a conspiracy which in the interests of Bengal more than of any other part of the Empire it is our duty to destroy. If you can do this you will do well, for you will help to win for the service of the Empire abilities and enthusiasm which will, I believe, do no less here than similar abilities and enthusiasm have done in other parts of King George's Dominions to make his Empire one of which His Imperial Majesty and all of us shall alike be proud.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Legislative Council, on 12th  
December 1916.***

GENTLEMEN,

I shall not keep you waiting for many minutes before we get to our ordinary business. I would not keep you at all, were it not that custom demands that the President should say something at the opening of each cold-weather session. I am very glad to welcome you here. I hope that you may be able to do something useful during this session. I am sure you will, because not only will there be the budget to deal with, but I feel sure you will ask questions and perhaps move resolutions which will be of great interest, but I cannot promise you much legislative work. Indeed at this moment it seems to me that there is only one Bill with which Government is at all likely to ask you to deal.

We hope to be able to introduce and pass the Bengal Tenancy Amendment Bill, whose object is to supplement and amend the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885, in respect of the alienation of land by aborigines. I cannot, I fear, claim that this Bill will excite much interest; I do not think it will call forth much enthusiasm, but I hope it may prove to be useful.

I regret to say there seems to me no hope of our being able to do anything in regard to the Calcutta Municipal Bill during the present session. That Bill was one of the first things which I considered after I came to Bengal, and I have been sorry each year when it had to be put off.

I regret too that there is probably no chance of our being able to bring in, as I much hoped we might have done,—the Bengal Village Self-Government Bill,—a Bill which will, we hope, some day help to extend the system of self-government in Bengal. As you know this Bill is mainly due to the labours of my colleague, Mr. Beatson Bell, and I feel sure that you will recognize its importance, and I did most sincerely hope that it would have been passed before I left Bengal, for I believe it will go a very long way towards making a sure foundation in Bengal on which in time a very useful structure will be built. I can only hope that my successor may be more fortunate in regard to these measures than I have been, and that when eventually they can be brought in and passed, the people of Bengal will find that the delay has been for their advantage.

The war still affects us as it affects people in every part of the world though not in the same manner. I wish to call your attention to one point—I, and probably you, have often been told how much other provinces have done in the way of sending officials to Military Service. You and I have been glad to hear it. I do not know whether you realize what Bengal has done in this way. If you do, I do not think you will feel that we here have any cause to be ashamed, especially when we consider the relative size of our cadres. Altogether Bengal has supplied 333 officers for some form of Military Service—71 have joined the Indian Army Reserve of Officers including 23 men from the Indian Civil Service—



11 from the Public Works Department, nine from the Customs, seven from the Education Department and seven from the Police. Many more officers would have liked to go, and offered to go, from each Department if we had been able to spare them. Ninety-four men have joined other units on active service. In addition to this we have supplied 141 medical men including 37 I. M. S. Officers, 29 Military Assistant Surgeons, 75 Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons. Five Government servants have joined the Bengal Double Company and about a dozen others served with the Bengal Ambulance Corps. Four of our officers have been killed in action ; one died of disease while on service, and one is missing.

Before I sit down I would like to mention that soon, probably before our next meeting, you will all have a copy of a new edition of the Bengal Legislative Council Manual which the Bengal Legislative Department, and especially Mr. McKay—have carefully brought up to date and enlarged. I trust that it will be as useful to you as the earlier editions compiled by Mr. Wigley have been to members of this Council in the past.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Australian Dinner, on  
3rd January 1917.***

MR. GOODE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I and, I hope, all of us whose health you have just drunk are proud to be your guests. We thank you for the way in which you have received us and I thank Mr. Lang for the nice things he said about my wife and me. This is not the first time I have been the guest of Australians, and I hope it may not be the last.

I'm not going to flatter you; I'm not going to tell you that Australians are the finest men and women in the world, not even that there is no surf like the surf at Manley and no racecourse to touch the course at Flemington. I am a Scotsman and I have lived for a time in Australia. So I know that you Australians, like we Scotsmen, are modest people. We don't mind what other people say or think for we know the truth about ourselves. Till I arrived in Australia I had no idea of what the country was like. I went there as a Governor—and a Governor has fewer chances than most new chums of learning quickly some of the most important things about the country he governs, unless he knows how to make the chances for himself, and even then, mind you, that is not an easy thing for him to do. I wasn't very long in Australia, not even the full six years which I meant to be when I went, but I was long enough to learn something. I was very soon glad that I had gone there and I have felt surer and surer of that ever since. Your country is very different from mine, your people look on many things in a different way from what mine do; but there is something which almost compels those who know and love Scotland to love Australia too once they know her. When I was on the boat on my way out I read some verses in a newspaper—the *Spectator*—by a lady, Miss Dorothea Mackellar—I don't know if that is still her name—and it was those verses that first made me inclined to love Australia—

“I love a sunburnt country,  
A land of sweeping plains,  
Of rugged mountain ranges,  
Of droughts and flooding rains.  
I love her far horizon  
I love her jewel sea  
Her beauty and her terror  
The wide brown land for me.  
The stark white ring barked forests  
All tragic 'neath the moon,  
The sapphire misted mountains,  
The hot gold hush of noon;  
Green tangle of her brushes  
Where lithe lianas coil,  
And orchids deck the tree tops,  
And ferns the crimson soil.

Love of my heart! my country!  
 Her pitiless blue sky.  
 When sick at heart around us  
 We see the cattle die;  
 And then the grey clouds gather  
 And we can bless again.  
 The drumming of an army  
 The steady soaking rain.  
 Love of my heart! my country!  
 Land of the rainbow gold!  
 For flood and fire and famine  
 She pays us back three fold;  
 Over the thirsty paddocks,  
 Watch after many days  
 The silver veil of green nets  
 That thickens as you gaze."

When I read these lines I had never seen, but they rang true; since then I have seen it, and I sympathize—

"An open-hearted country,  
 A wilful lavish land!  
 All you who have not loved her  
 You will not understand.  
 Though earth holds many splendours,  
 Wherever I may die,  
 I know to what far country  
 My homing thoughts will fly."

I know it and I understand it. The love of an Australian for Australia—the love of a Scotsman for Scotland—of a Ditcher for Calcutta—these are not of the heart alone, not of the intellect alone, but of the whole soul. I remember on some occasion quoting here in Calcutta the old lines from the metrical psalm "Her sons take pleasure in her stones Her very dust to them is dear." I was thinking as I quoted them of the road to Tollygunge when people begin to pine for Darjeeling, but I might have quoted them—I dare say I have—when thinking of the St. Kilda Road at Melbourne or of the Dean Bridge in Edinburgh; and I confess to you that though I have cursed it often enough I shall always have a very kindly feeling even for the dust in all those three places. It is, I think, because I understand. Was not there an old French writer who said that the exact equivalent of the phrase "I love" is the phrase "I understand"? Yes, ladies and gentlemen, your country may be "a wilful lavish land" and mine may seem to some a rather over disciplined, dour, over-thrifty place, but for those who understand them they have something in common, and that something is of great value. I remember an old Scots gardener, one whom you would have called "an old identity," who told my wife in Scotland just before we left for Australia, that he had been there for a good many years as a digger and that it was a country where you were a man one day and a mouse the next. I often afterwards thought of his words when I saw how dependent many a one in Australia is on what they can't help, on the drought, on a bush fire, on a vein of quartz or the colour of a wheelbarrow

load of earth, or perhaps too often on the pastime of a horse or the heart that beats beneath a silk jacket. Life is not all kisses and lollies even for the kids in Australia, though none know better how to take their share when they are going, or of bad luck when that's going. But it is that which has made you, I believe, the most generous, open-handed people on earth, and it is because of that a man can get as good a chance in Australia of proving himself a man as he can anywhere. And it will be more so yet.

Last night I got a book as a X'mas present from Australia from an Australian young lady. It is called "The moods of Ginger Mick" and it is by "the sentimental bloke"—C. J. Dennis. I don't know if you all know him. Perhaps some of you don't read the *Sydney Bulletin*. If you don't you miss a lot, you're not in touch with some of the liveliest thoughts of your time. I read that book this afternoon and I came across some lines where the Bloke was describing how Ginger Mick and his cobbers—for the benefit of the mere Englishman or Scotsman who has not learned the language of the future I may explain that word—A cobbler is the very best kind of pal. Dennis was explaining how Mick and his cobbers look on things while in Egypt just now and he used these words—

We've slung the swank for good and all,  
It don't fit in our plan;  
To skite of birth and hoodle is a crime.  
A man wiv us, why 'e's a man because he is a man  
And a real red hot Australian every time.  
For dog and side and snobbery is down and out for keeps,  
It's grit and real good fellowship that gets you friends in heaps.

I believe Australia thinks that, and that is why I often urge my friends to try to understand Australia.

There are things in Australia just as there are things in Scotland—besides the language—which take a bit of understanding. But as your Chairman reminded you the war is helping to quicken sympathies and to clear up thought. In Australia, in Scotland, in every land that you love men are learning to know as they never knew before what is worth doing. Women who knew better perhaps than men, are teaching it more boldly than they did before. Mothers and wives whose hands clung to the hands of those whom they will never see again, whose white lips could scarcely murmur the last goodbye to those whose red blood has flowed so freely over the vine-yards of France or the rocks of Gallipoli, have taught it as their forebears taught in many a lonely shieling and many a zinc-roofed hut, but clearer if but husbands and sons would heed.

• And the lesson is not for the moment only, there is much to be done before the war can come to an end, but there will be even more to do after that.

I fear my speech has been long. It has taken a turn which I hardly meant it to take and which you perhaps did not expect.

I apologise but I ask you to bear with me while I read to you one more extract out of Ginger Mick—

I suppose youfellers dream, Mick, in between the scraps out there?  
 Uv the land yeh left be'ind yeh when yeh sailed to do yer share:  
 Uv Collins Street, or Rundle Street, or Pitt, or George, or Hay,  
 Uv the land beyond the Murray or along the Castlereagh.  
 An' I guess yeh dream of old days an' the things yeh used to do,  
 An' yeh wonder 'ow 'twill strike yeh when yeh've seen this business 'thro,'  
 An' yeh try to count yer chances when yeh've finished wiv the Turk  
 An' swap the gaudy war game fer a spell o' plain, drab work.  
 Well, Mick, yeh know jist 'ow it is these early days o' Spring.  
 When the gildin' o' the wattle chucks a glow on ev'rything.  
 Them olden days, the golden days that you remember well,  
 In spite o' war an' worry, Mick, are wiv us fer a spell.  
 Fer the green is on the paddicks, an' the sap is in the trees,  
 An' the bush birds in the gullies sing the Ole, sweet melerdies;  
 An' we're 'opin', as we 'ear 'em, that, when next the Springtime comes.  
 You'll be wiv us 'ere to listen to that bird tork in the gums.  
 It's much the same ole Springtime, Mick, yeh recklect uv yore;  
 Boronier an' dafferdils and wattle blooms once more  
 Sling sweetness over city streets, an' seem to put to shame  
 The rotten greed an' butchery that got you on this game—  
 The same ole sweet September days, an' much the same ole place;  
 Yet, there's a sort o' somethin', Mick, upon each passin' face,  
 A sort o' look that's got me beat; a look that you put there,  
 The day yeh lobbed upon the beach an' charged at Sari Bair.  
 It isn't that we're boastin', lad; we've done wiv most o' that—  
 The froth, the cheers, the flappin' flags, the giddy wavin' 'at.  
 Sich things is childish memories; we blush to 'ave 'em told,  
 Fer we've seen our wounded, Mick, an' it 'as made us old.  
 We ain't growed soggy wiv regret, we ain't swelled out wiv pride;  
 But we 'ave seen it's up to us to lay our toys aside.  
 An' it was you that taught us, Mick, we've growed too old fer play,  
 An' everlastin' picter shows, an' goin' down the Bay  
 An', as a grown man dreams at times uv boy'ood days gone by,  
 So, when we're feelin' crook, I s'pose, we'll sometimes sit an' sigh.  
 But as a clean lad takes the ring wiv mind an' 'eart serene,  
 So I am 'opin' we will fight to make our man'ood clean.  
 When orl the stoushin's over, Mick, there's 'eaps o' work to do;  
 An' in the peaceful scraps to come we'll still be needin' you.  
 We will be needin' you the more fer wot yeh've seen an' done:  
 Fer you were born a Builder, lada, an' we 'ave jist begun.  
 There's bin a lot o' tork, ole mate, uv wot we owe to you,  
 An' wot yeh've braved an' done fer us, an' wot we mean to do.  
 We've 'ailed you boys as 'eroes, Mick, an' torked uv just reward  
 When you 'ave done the job ye've at an' slung aside the sword.  
 I guess it makes yeh think a bit, an' weigh this gaudy praise:  
 Fer even 'eroes 'ave to eat, an'—there is other days:  
 The days to come when we don't need no bonzer boys to fight:  
 When the flamin' picnic's over an' the Leeuwin looms in sight.  
 Then there's another fight to fight, an' you will find it tough  
 To sling the Kharki clobber fer the plain civillian stuff.  
 When orl the cheerin' dies away, an' 'ero-worship flops,  
 Yeh'll 'ave to face the ole tame life—'ard yakker or 'ard cops,  
 But, lad, yer land is wantin' yeh, an' wantin' each strong son  
 To fight the fight that never knows the firin' uv a gun:  
 The steady fight, when orl you boys will show wot you are worth  
 An' punch a cow on Yarra Flats or drive a quill in Perth..

The gilt is on the wattle, Mick, young leaves is on the trees,  
 An' the bush birds in the gullies swap the ole sweet melerdies,  
 There's a good, green land awaitin' you when you come 'ome again  
 To swing a pick at Ballarat or ride Yarrowie Plain.  
 The streets is gay wiv dafferdils—but—haggard in the run,  
 A wounded soljer passes; an' we know ole days is done.  
 Fer somew'ere down inside us, lad, is somethin' you put there  
 The day yeh swung a dirty left, fer us, at Sari Bair."

Australia has done her part—no kid stakes part—in the 'fight that  
 is not yet ended and Australia will do her share—a bonzer share—  
 in that new and harder fight. I feel sure of that and that is why  
 I finish as I began by saying I am proud to be the guest of you  
 Australians.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize Distribution of the Dacca College, on 26th January 1917.***

GENTLEMEN,

Before saying anything else, I wish to thank Babu Parimal Kumar Ghosh for the poem which he has so kindly composed and read to me, and I sincerely thank him for it.

My five years of office as Governor of Bengal are almost over. In each of those years Mr. Archbold has been good enough to ask me to attend your prize-giving. Each time he asked me I came, and each time I made a speech. I am not sure, but I rather think my speeches grew longer every year. If so, I apologise! I will try not to keep you too long to-day. Mr. Archbold spoke of the feeling of sadness inseparable from a visit of farewell. It was kind of him to do so, and it was kind of you to receive what he said as you did. I appreciate your kindness. I hope that I have been genuinely interested in your welfare, and after I leave India I shall, I trust, go on being interested. It is, therefore, only natural that I should feel that sadness of which Mr. Archbold spoke; but it is not sadness which is uppermost in my mind just now. When I look at you, when I think of the college students in Bengal, my clearest feeling is one of confident hope. You and I are I like to think friends: if you have trusted me, I can only feel pleased; but you are even more the friends of Bengal, and it is because I am, according to my lights, a sincere friend to Bengal that I trust you, and believe that you are all willing to help Bengal: even if in doing so you have to make some self-sacrifice. In every land college students are an important factor in progress, but no where more so than here, where almost all that makes for progress among a large population is supplied by past and present students, and certainly no where does the number of present college students bulk so largely when compared with that of past students as it does in Bengal. This must be the case at any rate for some years to come: and this adds largely to our responsibilities. It has added to my responsibilities, it will add to the responsibilities of my successor and of future Governors, and of those whose duty it is to advise Governors. That was why I looked forward keenly to the Dacca University of which I have so often spoken in this hall. That University is not to be yet a while; when it is to be I cannot say. Perhaps it may never take the shape which we expected. We may get something better. Whatever we do get, I feel sure you can look to the Viceroy of whose single mindedness and sincerity there can be no doubt to try to help students to develop all that is best in them, to draw out from them their fullest powers to be used for the good of their country. I want to take this opportunity—the first I have had—of saying publicly that I was glad to hear Lord Chelmsford's announcement in Convocation. Those of us who were there heard—we have all of us read since—what sort of men the Chancellor of the University will invite to come from England to

advise him, and I feel sure that we need have no fear of his not acting as those, who best appreciate what Indians have done, would have him act in seeking advice from Indian sources. Some of my friends are sorry that the enquiry is not to embrace all the Universities of India. They fear that confining it to Calcutta casts a slur however indirectly on Calcutta University. I feel absolutely certain that no slur is meant, and I feel entirely confident that the restriction is for the good of Bengal, where more people are ready and anxious for better University education than in other provinces. I do not wonder that the announcement has caused some disappointment here, for clearly the creation of a Dacca University must be delayed, but I am glad to notice the way in which Mr. Archbold takes the announcement; he seizes the opportunity to ask most insistently and I think logically for the immediate carrying out of improvements. I agree with Mr. Archbold that "in the present state of affairs it is probably wisest to go on as you have been doing, and to make the best of things" and I think that if he marshals his facts and uses his persuasive powers, as he knows so well how to do, Mr. Archbold and you will find that the best you can make of things will lead you very well on. At any rate I hope so. Mr. Archbold has told us of your triumphs during the past year. I congratulate you on them. Dacca may be, as Mr. Archbold says, is a quiet and remote city, it may be as he says it is difficult of access. I have always found it a pleasant city to be in, and if for no other reason than for the convenience of the Governor I wish it were a little more easy to get to it from a city which is certainly somewhat larger. But I have gathered that you, Dacca students, can hold your own both at work and at play. I hope you will always do so, and will take a real interest in all that concerns your motherland, "*Janani Janmabhumi*sha Swargadapi Gariyasi" "Mother and Motherland are dearer than life itself." I have quoted that before in Dacca, I am led to quote it again by what Mr. Archbold said about the recent internments. I feel sure that you all regretted these internments. I am not going to say that no one can regret them more than I do, but I hope that all who love Bengal regret them at least as much. I dare say many of you felt indignant at them. I shall not be surprised if some of you feel indignant still. For I know what my own feelings would be if I knew no more than many people know of the reason why the internments were made. I cannot complain if you feel indignation provided you feel it honestly; but I do beg you, to make sure of your facts, and to think fully out for yourselves the conclusions which you draw from these facts. It is true, only too true, that neither you nor I can know all the facts, and that we mutually cannot tell each other, for the present at any rate, some even of the facts which we do know. I, as Governor, know some things which I wish were publicly known, but which I cannot disclose in detail; because I know that to do so now would almost certainly lead to crimes which all who love Bengal would regret, and which all who distinguish in the same way as I do between



right and wrong would hate, and which even those who do not so distinguish would only excuse as a means to an end which I honestly believe would wreck, for a long time, all hope of Bengal, perhaps even of India, taking her due share in the advancement of human happiness; and I can hardly imagine that these are not facts, known to some, perhaps to many of you, which you would not—at present at any rate—divulge to me; because you feel that by doing so you might harm individual fellow-countrymen of your own, whom you believe, possibly rightly, to be at heart and in their motives better men than I, or any other connected with Government, would believe them to be, if you were to tell us all you know. But there are many facts,—agreeable facts or disagreeable facts, it matters not which,—known to all of us; and it is these that I ask you to face. For it is on facts that we must base our conclusions and our actions, in politics as in everything else. It is probably right here—as it is right elsewhere—that students—while they are students—should not take an active part in politics; but now and for a long time to come those who have just ceased to be students, will count for most in Indian politics, and on them must lie a heavy responsibility not only to themselves, but to their less educated and less thinking fellow-countrymen, a responsibility which should constrain them to approach every subject with an open mind, to form their conclusions deliberately, and not to take their principles ready-made from others, not even from the most brilliant speakers or writers. Don't believe everything that is written or appears in print, merely because it is written or printed: facts must be checked: conclusions must be thought out. Don't believe a thing merely because I, who am Governor, tell it to you; a Governor has better means—or ought to have better means than most men have of learning what facts are, but the accuracy of a Governor's conclusion depends on exactly the same qualities as lead to accuracy in other men's conclusions.

What are the facts—or a few of them—known to all of us, which I do not think either you or I would deny are vital? You are Bengalis; you love your country—you believe she can play a great part in the future of the world, and you want to do what you can to help her to play that part. Bengal, as the result of past history, now forms a portion of the British Empire; in every part of that Empire men of British descent hold a preponderating power: too preponderating a power some of you think.

It is because Bengal is a part of the British Empire that she is in no danger of being attacked by people of other races whether living in lands included in the British Empire or outside of it, and so long as Bengal continues in the British Empire she will continue to be free from this danger, unless Britain ever become so weak as to be unable to prevent others from attacking her. The vast majority of the people of Bengal are content to belong to the British Empire, and the other peoples who do belong to that Empire, and specially the British people have no desire to prevent them from doing so; indeed they would resist any attempt on the part of Bengal to separate herself from the Empire. Many persons in Bengal, possibly all the educated people, would like to

see changes made in administration, and to see Bengalis take a greater share in their own Government; but the extent to which they want to see this varies very considerably. There are many things, not directly concerned with Government, which could be done differently from the way in which they are done now, and which might, if done differently, bring greater comfort and happiness to Bengal.

Recent history shows that the British Government is willing—however slowly and however restrictedly—to give the peoples of India a part in managing their own public affairs. Many of us Britons profess at any rate, to be willing to go very far in this direction. Within the last few days we have seen the British Government inviting a Bengali to give his advice in matters which concern the whole Empire. These are a few facts within the common knowledge of us all.

We know too that some Bengalis believe that no progress can be made by their people in co-operation with the British people: a few of them think that it would be possible for Bengal to separate itself altogether from the British Empire, though they admit that it could only be at the cost of many lives. There are others—possibly a fair number—who think that progress is so slow that it is worth risking lives in an attempt to make it more rapid. We know that somethings have been done, which are admitted to be crimes, murders and dacoities for instance, whose perpetrators professed to be actuated by a desire to do harm to the British Government; though those who suffered from the crimes were almost without exception Indians.

We know that the British Empire is at war, and that the British Government has in consequence passed certain exceptional legislation aimed at those whom it suspects of trying to hurt it. It is under this legislation that the internments have been carried out.

I don't suppose that any of you would contend that it is not the duty of every Government to prevent murder or dacoity, or that any Government worthy of the name can knowingly allow itself to be weakened, especially in time of war: and I am inclined to think you would admit that Government is right to make internments, if only Government has fair grounds for its suspicions.

It is on the question of the fair grounds for suspicion that you may have differed and may still, some of you, differ from me. And it is on that question especially that I would ask you to think for yourselves. Government must also think for itself, and I claim that Government has based its conclusions on what it believes to be facts. The greatest part of the information on which Government has acted in the matter of internments has been derived from persons who have told us that they themselves took part in crimes avowedly committed in hostility to Government. It has come from persons who say that they themselves have been murderers, or have attempted to commit murder or have helped to plan murders, or who confess that they have committed dacoity or have helped to screen those who committed dacoity, or have taken care of the arms to be used in murders and dacoities. Government have believed their confessions, not in every detail, but as true on the

whole. That Government was justified in doing so is shown I think, if in no other way at any rate by the fact, that in more than 50 places arms and amunition have been found just where these confessions led the officers of Government to look for them. By far the greater number of persons against whom we have proceeded are persons who have been implicated by their own associates in the commission of crimes of violence or in the custody and use of arms.

I tell you all this, not because I believe that the students of Dacca College—nor indeed the students of any college in Bengal—sympathize with murder or dacoity, but because I know that persons who on their own showing have sympathized with or even committed these crimes have boasted that it is their practice to seek among the students for young men whom they may gradually persuade to join them, and because Government officers have found young men who are, or recently were, students who admit that they have allowed themselves to be so persuaded. How far this is a common practice perhaps none can know better than students themselves. But that the practice exists I am firmly convinced; and I know many others who are not Government officers—who are also convinced. It is a cruel practice, it is a cowardly practice, and it is only right that students should be warned of it. There have I know been many cases, and there may be many more than I know of, where boys were gradually led away by associates with whose objects they did not fully agree—in some cases they hardly even knew the objects. They were misled by high sounding words and phrases which perhaps they liked to hear even though they scarcely understood them. From that risk I would like to guard all students, and I believe you would like to guard all students. The risk will in time—before very long I hope—be removed, when those who try to tempt the students are rendered powerless as, thanks mainly to their own associates, they quickly are being rendered. Meanwhile all I can do is to impress on you that the risk exists and to ask you to think things well out for yourselves before you run it. The first step may often be easy, to take, but retreat is always difficult and not for your own sakes only, but for the sake of your country I beg you to be careful. There is much which your country needs; I know how bitter it often is to realize how little we ourselves can do to put things right, even when we feel we know what should be done. But we must not give in, and you can help. There is prejudice, there is ignorance, not more here perhaps than in other countries, though they may strike a stranger more. By clear thinking you can lessen these. Try to see good intentions rather than evil intentions in those with whom you must work. Misunderstanding causes more difficulty than any thing else does in India of that I feel sure. There is plenty of avoidable misery and avoidable want in your country, waiting for those who can understand them to explain to those who can help to remove them. The education you get here, and which other students get in other places must, I know, lead you to be discontented with much that you see around you. It would be worthless education if it did not. It will also I hope help you to find out and to explain the causes of discontent; we must all work together to remove

them. It will be hard I know to find the way, but it is worth trying to find it; of one thing I am sure the way cannot lie through crimes which alienate the sympathy of those who wish to help you. India has an opportunity at present which she never had before, of convincing the whole British Empire of her worth. There are I know parts of that Empire where Indians have been ill thought of. Hard things have been said; many you have read what was said. Ignorance was at the base of those calumnies. The Empire is as a whole prepared now as it never was before to learn the truth. On you and on the other young men of India lies the duty of showing what the truth is; and on what you show it to be, the happiness of future generations must largely depend. Dacca students will do their part. If only they think things out clearly and fearlessly for themselves, it will, I feel sure, be a noble part, and one for which many will be grateful.

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the High English School  
at Mirpur, on 27th January 1917.***

RAI SAHIB AND GENTLEMEN,

You need have been under no apprehension as to the reception which your kind invitation conveyed through the Commissioner would have at my hands.

I have come to-day to the village of Mirpur with great pleasure. I always enjoy a morning out in the country, and I specially enjoy it when I can join with you in your village life. It brings me nearer to the people and I value everything that brings a Governor nearer to the people he governs. Besides that it is a real pleasure to me to have an opportunity of showing a faithful servant of the Government how much I value the work which he—apart altogether from that which the Government as his employer expects him to do—does for his own people.

And at all times it gives me pleasure to acknowledge disinterested public spirit, such as is shown here by the Rai Sahib himself, who has spent what to a man of his means is a princely sum and who promises to spend still more on the education of the children of his fellow-villagers, and by the generous gift of Rs. 3,000 made by Babu Ananda Mohan Shah towards the same object. I am glad that one of the last pictures of life in Eastern Bengal which I shall carry away with me is that of an old scholarly father—belonging to a line of learned pandits spending his means and the evenings of his days in his village teaching the young men: of a dutiful son going into the world, there to make his mark as a servant of the Government: then returning to the village to raise a memorial to his revered father in the shape of a school building worthy of his parent's name: and of the joyful co-operation of the villagers, the *panchayat* supervising the building, the villagers joining together in providing the road leading to it. That picture of life in Eastern Bengal will always remain in my mind, and I am grateful to you for suggesting that I, too, should be associated with it. I most gladly agree that the new road should be called "Carmichael Rashta."

I wish the Sidhanta School all success in the future. May the boys educated here turn out good and useful citizens of the Empire!

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Bangsal Maktab  
(Dacca), on Monday, the 29th January 1917.***

Haji Abdur Rahim and Gentlemen,

It gave me great pleasure to accept the kind invitation conveyed to me through Mr. French to open this Bangsal Maktab.

Last year when I opened the first of the four buildings which the Haji Sahib in his generosity is providing for the children of Dacca, I thanked him for his public spirit and I am glad to have a second opportunity before I leave Bengal of showing my appreciation of his generosity.

Many Muhammadan parents will, I hope, bless the name of the Haji Sahib for thus bringing within the reach of their children a sound elementary education such as will fit them for the ordinary duties of their life in this world and will help them to realize the life which lies before them in the next.

The example of Maulvi Haji Abdur Rahim is one which I would commend to his fellow-townsmen, and I hope to hear in the future that they are willing to follow it by supporting these *maktabs*.

It now gives me great pleasure to declare this *maktab* open.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Distribution of Rewards to Panchayats at Dacca, on 29th January 1917.***

I am afraid you will not all understand my words, but I will ask Suresh Babu to translate the meaning of them into Bengali when I have finished speaking.

This ceremony would ordinarily have been conducted by the Commissioner of the Division. But I asked the *panchayats* and Chairmen of Union Committees to come here to receive these tokens of the appreciation of the Government at my hands, so that you might realize that the work which you do for Government and for the public good is genuinely appreciated by the highest authority with which you have direct dealings.

I took the opportunity of asking the *dafadars* and *chaukidars* to come at the same time so that I might have an opportunity of publicly thanking them as a body for the many brave acts which they and their colleagues have done during the last five years. I have taken great interest in the *panchayats*, and especially in the new Union Committees and you, gentlemen, form a very important link in the administration—a link upon the strength of which much of the progress towards Local Self-Government must depend. You voluntarily assist the Government in the administration of the law and the keeping of order and you keep the Government in touch with the people—a function which is of especial importance in a country like Eastern Bengal where communications are at times so difficult.

But it is not the Government only that has reason to thank you. your fellow-villagers also have reason to do so. It is open to you to translate the Government's intention to them in such a way that they will understand, and it is open to you to convey to the Government the needs of the people in the villages in a way that will ensure for them a sympathetic consideration. Many of you have given great help by opening out new village communications, by combating fever, by the distribution of quinine, and by the preservation of drinking water, by helping the agriculturist and conveying to him a knowledge of pests and how to deal with them, and also a knowledge of new seeds and manures.

Many of you have in true patriarchal fashion settled disputes within your villages in a way which has given satisfaction to all and left no sting behind.

I thank you all for this public-spirited work: I am glad Government can rely upon gentlemen like you for assistance in the administration of this great province, and I sincerely hope your example will be followed by many others.

***His Excellency's Address in Bengali at the East Bengal Saraswat Samaj, Dacca, on Monday, the 29th January 1917.***

SARASWAT SAMAJER PĀNDIT MA-HŌ-DAY-GAN,

Apanader Sampāḍak Mahashoy tanhar Ojas-shi-ni Avī-va-sha-ne Amar prati Jathēsta Preeti O Sraddha Prakash Kariāchhen.

Apanara Je Shahānu-bhuti-te Anu-pra-nita Hoiya, Amar-prati Erup Shaday Byaba-har Karilen, Taha Ami Hriday-angam Karite Pariachhi; Ebong Tan-nimit-ta Ami Apana-diga-ke Dhanya-bad Pradan Karitechhi.

Saraswat Samajer Pandit Mandalir Audhi-be-shane Ami Ei Sesh Sava-patir Karjya Karitechhi, Iha Mane Karia, Ami Pra-krita-pakhay Du-kkhi-ta Hai-techhi; Kintu Ami Ihate Ja-thesta Anandao Bhog Koritechhi Je, Ami Gata Kaek Batsar Bharat-barshe Aūbas-than-Kaleen Bharatiya Prachin Gyan Sa-mban-dhe Anoorag Dekhai-bar Eta Shujag Paichhi. Ami Je Apanader Apar Kona Upakar Karite Parilamna Ta-jjon-ya Ami Du-kkhi-ta; Kintu Ami Amar Para-barti Shashan-karta Jahate Apanader Samajer Prati Shanukul Drishti Rakhen, Ta-jjon-ya Nishchoi-i Anu-rodh Kariha.

[TRANSLATION.]

PANDITS OF THE SARASWAT SAMAJ,

Your Secretary in his eloquent address has expressed many kind thoughts. The kindly feelings which have led you to express these thoughts I greatly appreciate, and I thank you for these expressions of them.

I am indeed grieved to think that this is the last Convocation of the Pandits of the Saraswat Samaj over which I shall preside: but I rejoice to think that my presence in India during these few years has given me these opportunities of showing my interest in the ancient learning of India. I am sorry I have not been able to do more for you, but shall certainly commend the work of the Samaj to my successor.



***His Excellency's Address to the Eastern Bengal Volunteer Rifles,  
on Tuesday, the 30th January 1917.***

COLONEL GLEN, OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE EASTERN BENGAL VOLUNTEER RIFLES,

I am glad to see you here, though I am sorry it is only to say good-bye. For the last five years I have had the honour of being your Honorary Colonel, and I shall always be interested to know how you are getting on. I daresay that you, like so many others in India just now, are sometimes anxious to know what is going to be the future of volunteering in this country. I do not claim to have any special knowledge—military matters are entirely outside of my province—but I do not think any of you will contradict me if I say it seems likely that orders will soon issue which will affect you and not you only, but all the other volunteers in India and those other men who are not volunteers, but who might be, and some of us would say, ought to be volunteers. And I do not believe I shall be wrong if I say we shall know very soon what these orders are. Whatever they are, I feel sure of one thing—all of you are ready to do your duty of your own free will; not because of the reason which we hear sometimes jokingly, sometimes sarcastically repeated, that if one knows one has got to do a thing one may as well profess to like doing it, but because you all want to be fit to take any part which those who know better than we do what is needed believe you ought to take. And, gentlemen, I believe that much may be needed of you. I don't expect you will as a body be wanted to go and fight; even as individuals I fear it can only be very few if any of you who will be lucky enough to get the chance of seeing service. But there is duller, less exciting, but none the less necessary work which is done now by men who would like to be fighting, and who for the sake of all of us may have to fight, and it may well be that before long those who now are volunteers will have to do some of that duller work. The prospect may not be pleasing; it may involve some self-sacrifice, but it will be bravely faced. Other things must not be forgotten; trade is of vital importance; and the ordinary civil administration of the country is of vital importance. The Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief will meet those needs. They have them I know at heart, and will, I believe, ask for nothing but what is absolutely essential; and those who are asked will gladly respond. You are here to make yourselves efficient, and you will, from what I have heard of him, I believe you may well be proud of your Adjutant—Captain Dillon. Now I need only say good-bye. I shall always remember your corps. Your Colonel—Colonel Glen—has been a real friend to me; he has helped me in my Legislative Council and in many less showy but quite as useful ways. Your late Adjutant—poor Monty Stow—was on my Staff before he came to you. He is one of the many who have gone and who can never come back whom we loved in their lives and whom we honour in their death. If your ranks there are many of whom I can never think of but with pleasure for they have helped to make my time in India pleasant. I know that you will all try to do always all that volunteer ought to do, and I wish you all good fortune.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Farewell Addresses presented at Dacca, on Wednesday, the 31st January 1917.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you all most sincerely on behalf of Lady Carmichael, as well as for myself, for your kindly expressions of regret at our departure.

Four years and-a-half ago when we landed here, Dacca was for us an unknown city. We had been told that probably we should not wish to stay in it very long, but would want to hurry away from it as quickly as we could; we had even been told we might be driven away by mosquitoes! When therefore I spoke in the Northbrook Hall in reply to those who welcomed us, I assured them that they need not fear, and that I should try to treat Dacca as Dacca thought a Governor should treat her. But I soon found that there was no reason why we should look on our visits here as a mere matter of duty. We learned to like Dacca, and I feel sure that our recollections of it will not be the least happy of many happy memories which my wife and I will take away with us from India.

When I look back on the last five years I am only too conscious of much left undone which I had hoped to see done; still I think I may honestly claim that we have not entirely failed in helping you to get a move on. The members of the Municipal body refer to city improvement, to your drainage scheme and your waterworks: in each of these progress has been made. Your request for further grants must be laid before my successor, who will, I feel sure, be no less anxious than I have been to help a city whose claims to sympathetic attention he has more than once championed. We have seen a beginning made with the new hospital. What has been done there lately, and the addition made two years ago to Government House show that the Public Works Department is not always a slow-moving institution! We have tried to do something to revive and foster the arts and industries for which Dacca was once so famous. I trust that the Home Industries Association, which my wife has recently founded, may help artisans and craftsmen here as well as in other parts of Bengal. We have visited your schools and your colleges and your charitable institutions, and have tried to give them help where we could. I have, I hope, done a little to encourage Mr. Finlow and Mr. Hector, Mr. MacLean and those other gentlemen who are doing real good work, not nearly enough recognized, out at the farm on the Mymensingh road near the Manipuri village. If some day a few more grains grow on every paddy stalk, if the jute of Bengal is on an average a few inches longer than it now is, if the potash stored up in the water hyacinth is made available to enrich land where it is so much needed, I shall feel proud to think I encouraged those who are so unobtrusively working to bring these about. And I have done what I could to preserve some of the monuments of the great Mogul period. Lord Curzon once expressed his readiness to devote a large portion of his life to the improvement of Calcutta. Were I a younger man I could contemplate with pleasure being appointed Chairman of a Dacca Improvement Trust with unlimited resources; I am sure one could spend many happy years in restoring and beautifying your city. I know that Mr. Patrick Geddes

who visited Dacca not long ago with a view to seeing what could be done in this direction, thought there was great scope for an Improvement Trust here.

But Dacca will always be associated in my mind with schemes of even wider interest; for it was here that I had time to think about India's needs. It was easier here than in places, where engagements are more numerous, and work is more pressing, to think out how encouragement can be given to Local Self-Government and to consider that other matter to which the People's Association refer: the possible admission of Bengalis to the ranks of the Indian Army.

The general friendliness of the people of Dacca and above all their out-spoken comments were of great advantage to me, for these often helped me to see questions from a different point of view from that which is usually put before a Governor, and to appreciate things which I would otherwise have missed. You, on your side, have attributed to me courtesy, kindness, sympathy and accessibility. I am glad you did so: but I on my side was struck by your helpfulness, and I was most thankful for the readiness with which you met my attempts to get to know you.

The People's Association express the hope that differences of opinion have not shaken my love for the people and my faith in their loyalty. Faith and love which could be shaken by mere differences of opinion would be but poor counterparts of the real qualities. I trust that the ties which bind me to Bengal are no weak ties, and I feel that these very differences of opinion have helped to make them stronger.

We have made many friends in Dacca; there has been time here for friendship and for the pleasant intercourse which cements friendship: I see some faces here which I shall not readily forget—but there is one I miss—I would not like to omit from my words, as I certainly do not omit from my thoughts, the late Nawab Bahadur Sir Salimullah.

Now it is time for us to go—we shall often think of Dacca, of Ramna and of the people of Eastern Bengal; and you may be sure that I shall, if opportunity for doing so arises, use the knowledge which I have gained in India, in helping to urge the cause of India's progress.

The Muhammadan Association ended their address with a quotation from Hafiz. I have not much knowledge of Urdu, but I will end my reply with some words from the poet Hali of Panipat—

Naqsh hain dil par méri,  
Sári mudáratén teri.  
Bhool kah sakte hain hum,  
Din téri awr ratén téri.

(All your kindnesses to me are graven on my heart. How can I ever forget your days and your nights.)

N.B.—(1) Joint address from the Municipal Commissioners and District Board,  
(2) Eastern Bengal Landholders' Association,  
(3) Provincial Muhammadan Association, and  
(4) The Dacca People's Association.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Meeting of the Bengal Home Industries Association, on 1st February 1917.***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

When I was asked to preside at this meeting I gladly agreed, for I have every sympathy with the objects of those who have got it up. Ever since I came in India I have taken a great deal of interest in what are generally spoken of as "Home Industries." In Madras one of the things which most attracted my attention was the Victoria Institute with its permanent exhibition of the products of those sorts of industries as developed in that Province. That I was not wrong in thinking that institute serves a good purpose has frequently been impressed on me by what I have heard of the institute from intelligent people who have visited Madras and have told me about it—often without having any idea that I knew anything about the institute already, and during all the time I have been in Bengal I have been trying to find out what in the nature of Home Industries exists in the Presidency. A good deal does exist—more I think than many of us are aware of—but too often these industries are only in a state of bare existence. They do not flourish. I wish they did, for I believe that flourishing home industries would be of great value here. In old times Home Industries not only existed, but flourished exceedingly in Bengal. The Ain-i-Akhbari mentions the fame of Bengal cloth. European travellers such as Ralph Fitch in the 16th century and Bernier and Tavernier were struck by the products of Bengal. When European trading companies established themselves in Bengal in the middle of the 17th century, silk and cotton fabrics were—apart from lime and saltpetre—the main articles of the trade.

The initial decline of Home Industries in Bengal was due, I think there can be no doubt, to the methods adopted by the European trading companies. The East India Company early in the 18th century began systematically to make contracts with individual weavers, whom it bound down to work only for itself while it made advances to them and when it thought necessary enforced its contracts by force. It thus became a *mahajan*, and like some other *mahajans* it swallowed up most of the profits. The famines of 1770 and 1787 and still more the decline of the Moghul Court—which was a large consumer of the finer products of Bengal—did their share in lessening the trade done by the home workers. The great extension of agriculture and the vast increase in the welfare of the cultivators throughout the whole country during the last century took attention away from what was going on. Analogous things have happened in other countries; but here as elsewhere the growth of population has forced people to think and to wonder whether the decline of these industries has not been unfortunate in the interests not of the poor people only, but of those who are known as the middle classes.

But I won't take up your time. As Surgeon-General Edwards often says there is no use keeping a lion if you are going to roar yourself; and there are many here ready to speak—the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur and others who are far more eloquent than I am and who can speak with more intimate knowledge.

If their speeches lead to something being done, I shall be glad not only because I am the husband of a lady who has the cause of home industries very much at heart, and to whom I believe this meeting is in great part due; but because I honestly believe that in helping home industries we can very greatly help Bengal.

***His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Co-operative Conference,  
on 1st February 1917.***

GENTLEMEN,

I welcome you once again and thank you for having come here. We held no conference last year, because it was suggested to Government that the expenditure involved in holding one was hardly justified at a time of financial stress. I felt the force of the suggestion and agreed in the decision, though I was rather reluctant to do so and have rather regretted it ever since. Whether it was a right decision or not, I soon learned that the keen co-operators were disappointed. Any how when the matter had to be decided this year, I thought that it would be a mistake to let another year pass without calling you together; I felt this for various reasons—and some of them better reasons—besides the one, which I admit I did feel, that I wished to see you once again before I leave Bengal.

As I have told you on other occasions I am a great believer in conferences where a movement is concerned which depends for its success largely on public support. It is necessary that the individuals who guide the movement should meet together at frequent intervals to ensure that the direction is uniform; and it is just as necessary for success that there should be free discussion among the individuals who have expert practical knowledge to ensure that the whole is moving in the right direction. Conferences have another great value; they concentrate the attention of the public at large on the value of the movement, and thus help to attract new workers.

The progress of co-operation in Bengal was not so rapid during the year 1915-16 as it was during some previous years: still an increase in societies, or members and in capital of between 12 and 14 per cent. is no mean increase. The development during my term of office here has been remarkable. When I came to Bengal in 1912 the movement was struggling through its early experiences, but now the co-operative credit system is firmly established in the Presidency. I have heard that when the first Registrar went round Bengal, preaching co-operation not many years ago—his colleagues used to say of him "He makes banks and brays"! No one now-a-days casts ridicule upon co-operative credit.

I asked Mr. Mitra to give me figures to show the progress made while I have been here: he has given me them for the four year period June 1912 to June 1916. These show that the number of banks have increased from 939 to 2,243: they have been multiplied by more than 2½ almost by 2½; the number of members is very nearly three times as great as it was: from 40,600 it has grown to 121,000, and the capital involved has grown from 26 lakhs to 124 lakhs. I am told that with what has been added since June last it is now 130 lakhs—an increase of 400 per cent. These figures are very striking: and this is especially so when one considers that during the period there was not only the crisis of 1913 in North India when the confidence of the investor was so rudely shaken, but also the fall in the price paid for jute to the growers after the outbreak of the war which so nearly ruined many cultivators, and

the great increase in cost of the necessities of life which the war has brought with it. But these very difficulties have proved benefits in disguise: in fighting them weak points have come to light and have been put right, and strong points have been brought into relief and the public confidence has been stimulated: so that now the movement is firmly established.

But, gentlemen, remarkable though the progress may appear, remember this is only the beginning. You have touched but the fringe of the great problem of indebtedness in India. You have shown what can be done: now you have to follow on and do it. The field which stretches before you is almost unlimited: the burden of agricultural and industrial indebtedness still lies upon India like a great mountain which has to be dug away, even though the labour in removing it will be enormous. But it is not only the removal of indebtedness which is needed, there is a great field for your energies in co-operation with the Agricultural Department in improving the produce of the land: there is another huge field in the development of industries. I was greatly cheered at the sight of the enthusiasm of the Home Industries meeting held two days ago in Dalhousie Square. I am confident that that Association which has just been founded can do a great deal for the artizan and the cottage worker, and I hope it will do it: but without industrial co-operation its efforts will be, to a large extent, fruitless. There is an immense field before you for forming and encouraging societies among the artizans and cottage workers to enable them to free themselves from unnecessary middlemen, to purchase their raw materials wholesale, and to obtain a fair profit on the articles they manufacture. I would commend to your attention the little depôt which has been started in Bow Bazar Street by a few enthusiasts for the sale of the products of the Weaving Society members. I hope that the Home Industries Association will soon be able to open a depôt for the sale of the products of artizans and cottage workers throughout Bengal.

The field, as I have said, is almost unlimited: yet I would caution you against attempting too soon to occupy the whole of it at one time: caution in this is all the more necessary for as the benefits of co-operation become better known, the demand for these benefits increases; and you have at the present time the great stimulus of public confidence.

Remember that public confidence is the result of thorough work and never try to secure quantity at the expense of quality. Weed out all the primary societies which do not make progress. If the members are not enthusiastic, their work will very soon bring discredit on the movement.

There are some I know who, while they advocate thoroughness, would try to secure it by increasing the number of Government paid officials employed in the organization. Government has certain responsibilities under the law, they must see that these are efficiently discharged, and they must not render themselves liable to the charge of insufficiently providing for the necessary staff: but we must remember that the essence of this movement is self-help. There is, I fear in this country a tendency to look too much to Government for assistance in all movements which are for the good of the people, and to look too little to the

people themselves. The greatest proof of the success of the movement will be the fact that its propaganda is carried on by workers who are either voluntary or who are paid by the co-operative bodies themselves.

• The suggestions and advice which I have given you from time to time have always been well received, and I am glad to see from the Registrar's reports that they have been worked up to.

I was glad to read that the number of Circle Inspectors, has been increased : and that there is a movement on foot for an audit paid for by the societies themselves over and above the necessary Government audit. The work of audit and supervision must go hand in hand with the work of co-operative education. I am glad to see, too, that the Central Banks are working up to my suggestions regarding adequate share capital and reserve fluid resources, liquid assets and proper co-relation between the period of the loan and the period of the deposit. I would like to lay special stress on what the Registrar says in his report regarding the necessity for adequate expert management in the Central Banks. Every Central Bank should look forward to employing, at as early a date as possible, its own wholetime paid Manager.

I confess I should at one time have liked to see the Provincial Bank founded before I left, but we all recognize that this is not the time to float a large financial concern of the nature, and I am now quite pleased that there has been delay, for experience has proved that the Central Banks are growing each of them individually stronger, and that they are able to attract more and more local deposits.

The postponement of the Provincial Bank project is, therefore, likely to be for good : for when the time comes the financial magnitude of the concern will be far greater than was originally anticipated, the constituent banks will be far stronger and will have a sound basis of finance not drawn from one place, but spread far and wide throughout the province ; and the Provincial Bank will, therefore, be in a much stronger position at its start than, two years ago, I would have ventured to predict.

Gentlemen, I have kept you perhaps too long, and no doubt you are eager to get to your deliberations : but before I leave you, I want to thank you for all the self-sacrificing work you have done during the years I have been here. I thank those of you who are officials for your work ; I know it was only your duty to do it ; but it is a duty which you have done cheerfully, and for that I commend you. I would specially commend the work of Mr. Hart and of Mr. Prentice who made regular tours among the societies which proved of very great assistance. The non-officials too I specially thank : to them the work has been a labour of love. Co-operation has a great future in India, it is already a great factor on the national development and possibly it is destined one day to be the dominant factor.

I bid you all farewell ; and as I do so I would like, in the clearest terms, I can, to express my appreciation of Rai Bahadur Jafmani Mohan Mitra's work as Registrar. To Mr. Mitra I feel that heartfelt thanks, are due not only from us, but from all who hoped to see India flourish as I believe she can flourish.



***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize-distribution at the Hastings House School, on 20th February 1917.***

MR. PAPWORTH, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I do not propose to keep you more than a few minutes while I address myself to the parents and others interested in the Hastings House School.

This institution is the outcome of conversations which I had with some of the leading men of this Province: and, as many of you are aware, I have taken a great personal interest in its welfare. It aims at bringing the benefits of the English Public School system to those who desire to secure them for their sons—so far at least as they can be secured without sending the sons far away to another continent.

The system has been successful in England in preparing the sons of English gentlemen to fill their places in the world. It has succeeded in training up a healthy mind in a healthy body: and it is, as Mr. Papworth has said, a great tribute to the system that there should be a demand for it among the gentle class of this country.

The demand is, I believe, a very genuine one—I have learned to believe that from conversation with many of the leading men of Bengal: it was because I felt that the demand was genuine and reasonable that I asked the Viceroy,—as a temporary measure,—to lend this historic building with its beautiful grounds for the experiment.

Parents who desired this form of education for their sons had formerly to send their boys at a very early age far away from home, without in most cases any hope of seeing them till after their education was completed. They had not the satisfaction that the English parent has—of seeing their boys develop gradually and of keeping in touch with that development. The very fact that the boys had to go away so far took away one of the main factors which has led in England to the success of the system. For it seems to me that that success has been due in great part to the combination of communal training under strict discipline, with short periods of relaxation in the gentler atmosphere of the home under family conditions. For the Indian boy sent to England, this is seldom possible: his holidays mean either a period of wandering among more or less strange people in a strange land—or else a continued residence with his house master at school. An Indian boy, at school in England, besides being isolated from the influence of his own parents, is isolated from his own people; he must, to some extent, lose touch with them and with their point of view. He cannot help it, and in this there is real danger for before one can be a patriotic citizen of an Empire one must be a patriotic citizen of one of its component parts.

Here we aim at getting rid of these two drawbacks. This is but a small beginning, in temporary quarters, but I look forward to your having some day a large public school with its own buildings in a healthy locality away from the metropolis. It is too early to say anything about success—but the numbers on the roll show that this experiment is appreciated and the enthusiasm of Mr. Papworth and his staff augur well for the future.

Before I sit down I would like to say a word of thanks to those gentlemen who have generously contributed to the scholarships to which reference was made in the report. I thank Mr. Papworth and his staff for all they have done, and it will give me great pleasure to give away the prizes to the successful boys.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Unveiling of the Portrait of late Dr. Surja Kumar Sarbadhikari at Senate House, on 27th February 1917.***

GENTLEMEN,

I am very pleased to be associated with this ceremony, both because I am glad to do anything which pleases two such good friends of mine as the Vice-Chancellor and his brother Dr. Suresh Prasad Sarbadhikari, and also and even more because I am glad to show in any way I can that Government appreciates work such as was done by Rai Bahadur Dr. Surja Kumar Sarbadhikari. Many of you knew Dr. Surja Kumar personally, most of you know a good deal, all of you something about him. It would be presumption on my part if I—who never saw him and who only know of him from reading books or speeches which are available to all—were to say much just now.

Dr. Surja Kumar belonged to an old family with fine traditions. It is fully 500 years now since Ahmed Shah, the Emperor of Delhi, conferred on one Sureshwar, the Diwan of Orissa, the title of Sarbadhikari—a hard title to live up to, for it means “the head of all classes.” I learned that, and much more, from Major Walsh's History of Murshidabad; but Sureshwar lived up to the title, and he is by no means the only one of his family who has done so. General Edwards has given me a list of 13 members of the family who stood out in their time, and who have a right to be remembered as men who deserved well of their fellowmen, as administrators and as scholars.

Both under the old Delhi Emperors and under the British Rulers members of the Sarbadhikari family have shown themselves worthy servants of their country. We read of one that he “rendered signal service to Lord Clive in the negotiations that preceded the Battle of Plassey” and of him a recent Secretary of State, Lord George Hamilton, through his Private Secretary—the late Sir Richmond Ritchie—said that he “fully appreciated” his help “in holding the thread of the negotiations between the English and the Government of the Nawab.” Another was the first Indian to be appointed a Subordinate Judge under British rule at a time when that was the highest appointment open to an Indian. There have been few movements for the public good in these parts with which some Sarbadhikari was not connected, and I think we can truly say that that is still the case.

But to come to Dr. Surja Kumar, whose portrait I am going to unveil, I fancy you all have read or heard of what Sir John Woodburn said of him when he gave him his *Sanad* in 1898. Such brief official summaries, however laudatory, must necessarily leave out reference to much—often indeed to the very best parts—of a man's life. To his acts of kindness, and of love, to the courtesy and charm without which even the ablest men do not get that hold on their fellowmen which enables a man to make full use of what is in him. Dr. Surja Kumar

must have possessed that gift of charm in no small degree; General Edwards, who quite as much as any man I have met out here—more indeed than most—seems to me quick to see where Indians and his countrymen and mine can join in sympathy—General Edwards wrote to me—“that Dr. Surja Kumar possessed the gift of charm in great perfection is shown by the friends he made among our own somewhat cold and difficult countrymen” and he went on to refer to that splendid man Sir Joseph Fayre who met Dr. Surja Kumar at the relief of Lucknow, where they formed a friendship—at one time they even shared the same rooms—a friendship which grew closer as years passed by and only terminated at death. He referred also to Dr. Goodeve, whose name, I am told, was once a household word in Calcutta, and who was Dr. Surja Kumar’s teacher and afterwards his firm friend. Surgeon-General Edwards told me also of other British medical men of character and ability, who were on the best of terms with him, and we all know that Sir Stuart Bayley, Sir James Bourdillon, Sir Louis Jackson and many other men distinguished, as we count distinction here, were proud to claim Dr. Surja as their friend.

Dr. Surja Kumar was probably the only Bengali who has served as an officer in the Navy. He was Surgeon in charge of the gunboat *Fire Queen* in 1856-57, when she cruised about the Burma coast, and when she brought Sir Henry Havelock to Bengal from Madras. He was also, I fancy, the only Bengali who has served as an officer in a Highland Regiment. He became Surgeon to the 72nd, the Seaforths, when the European Surgeon fell at Ghazipur, and was Surgeon to Havelock’s Brigade on its march to the relief of Lucknow.

But to those of you who knew him I expect his great kindness of heart and his charity are what he is most remembered by. He never spared himself when working for others, and he was constantly working for others. As a doctor he had a large and lucrative practice, but he never declined to take any poor patient because of his poverty, but treated him with as much courtesy and consideration as any wealthy man could expect. His charities were such that when he died, although he had consistently made a large income, he only left a few rupees. I believe he told his sons that after his death they would not find enough money in his cash box to pay his funeral expenses; and they found that that was true. He had given his children their food and their education of the best: but the rest of the money he made, he used for those who he thought needed it more. There was no ostentation about him, no seeking to attract public notice. He was, to use some words of George Elliot “one of those benignant lovely souls who without astonishing the public or posterity made a happy difference in the lives of those close around them and so lifted, the average of earthly joy.”

Could any man have a nobler aim in life than that? Little wonder that his sons are proud of him! and may I say it I feel that if he is with us to-day,—and who can say he is not? he must be proud of his sons. Long may his descendants try to live up to his example, to work

for their country, to strive to make India great and powerful by helping her to become truly united, to get rid of religious animosity and of racial prejudice, to encourage learning, and discipline and self-control among their fellow-countrymen so that India may be a true source of strength to those who are associated with her, full of men who make good use of her resources, brave men who can think boldly, but with full appreciation of facts; so brave that they need fear no attack from outside and no treachery among themselves. That Bengal may have many sons like Dr. Surja Kumar is indeed my hope. I shall now unveil the portrait, but before doing so my last words shall be those of the wise King—

“Children's children are the crown of the old man, but

“The glory of the children is their father.”

***His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Meeting, Kalimpong Homes,  
given at the Y. M. C. A. Hall, Calcutta, on 28th February 1917.***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with somewhat mixed feelings that I take this chair. I am glad to do anything which Dr. Graham asks me to do or which he thinks can in any way help his work at Kalimpong. But I am sorry to think that my presiding here to-day is probably the last thing which I can do in India to help him. This is not the first time I have presided at your meetings. During all the five years that I have been in Bengal I have tried to keep in touch with what is being done in the Kalimpong Homes; what I heard before I came here at all led me to believe that good was done there, and every thing I have seen or heard since has confirmed my belief. I think I have visited the homes on six different occasions; each time I have found some new and good piece of work begun or just beginning, and never have I found any good piece of work being dropped. Last time I was at Kalimpong I opened the Hart Cottage; it was not quite ready, but Dr. Graham did me the honour of asking me to open it last November, as he had done me the honour of asking me to lay its foundation-stone a year before. I refer to this now, because I have heard from Dr. Graham that though the children are not yet in Hart Cottage they soon will be. One of the difficulties which Dr. Graham and you have to face at present, is the difficulty of getting workers to come out from Home. With the war going on, with so many of their friends at the front, and so much to do at Home, it is little wonder that it has not been easy to get ladies to come out to be "mothers" or "aunties" at the homes: and now even if you can find them willing to come, they can't be allowed to make the voyage. But Dr. Graham tells me that he has heard that four ladies are coming from Australia, and have either sailed or are just going to sail from Melbourne. This will enable the children to go into Hart Cottage almost at once. I was glad to hear this for I was in Victoria and lived in Melbourne myself for a time; and I am glad to hear of people from Victoria coming to help their fellow-subjects in India. Few things please me more than to hear of Australians taking an interest in India or Indians in Australia. Kalimpong is one thing which provides that interest. There are, I think, 15 Australians working in one capacity or another at the homes this cold weather. It is good to find one part of our widespread empire helping another: and Kalimpong is itself helping as you know; for a good many Kalimpong children have gone out to New Zealand. They have done well there, and of the boys who have gone to New Zealand, most have done well elsewhere; for they have gone to the front. Dr. Graham can tell you how large a proportion of these boys have gone and are doing their part well. It seems to me that the boys and girls brought up at Kalimpong themselves furnish the surest proof that the work done there is good. It is work of which any one who has taken any part in it at all has

a right to be proud. The community which for the most part is helped by the work has many difficulties to face—some of them I admit of their own making or at any rate of their own strengthening. But when we see the circumstances amidst which so many of that community live, we can hardly wonder at some of the difficulties. We must hope that the community will be strong enough to overcome them. I think if you see, as I have seen, the little children when they first come to the homes and then contrast with them the boys and girls who are leaving the homes, you will feel that there is no reason to be downhearted for their community, and when we think of how well so large a proportion of those boys are doing after they have left the home, especially of those boys who have gone to New Zealand, we may feel sure that what that community most needs is to get a good chance. Dr. Graham is the man to give people a good chance. I do not like praising people to their faces, but I must say now that you are lucky, India is lucky, Scotland is lucky to have Dr. Graham and Mrs. Graham. The Kalimpong work is good, and I trust that Scotland will always produce people to do good work. But even Scotland won't produce many like Dr. Graham and Mrs. Graham; the day must come some time—I hope it is very far off—when they won't be with us. Let us make the best use of them; let us help them to make the best use of themselves while they are with us. They are never happier—either of them—than when they are making others happy; and if you have visited the Kalimpong Homes you must have felt that they do make many people happy; the children there have had a heavy handicap at the start; they must have much to contend with later on in life, but while they are there the Grahams do make them happy. Last time I was there as I came down the brae with Dr. and Mrs. Graham and saw child after child all smiling, all waving their hands to them, we were talking at the time for some reason about tombstone inscriptions and I could not help thinking of Lowell's lines—I am not sure that I can quote them right though I think I can—which seem to me to express what perhaps is the epitaph which more than any other a man might desire to deserve, and which far more than most people Dr. and Mrs. Graham will deserve when their time comes—

"Let it be graven on my tomb,  
He came and left more smiles behind,  
One ray he shot athwart the gloom,  
He helped one fetter to unbind,  
Men think of him and grow more kind."

Ladies and gentlemen, I feel sure we shall often think of Dr. and Mrs. Graham.

I know I shall, long after I have left India—and I am sure we can never think of either of them without feeling that they are doing kind deeds, and without wishing we could help them to do more kind deeds. Let us act on that thought while we can, and help Dr. Graham to put his works on so sure a footing that we shall never again hear the fears expressed which used to be expressed a few years ago—but which he and his wife never shared—that he has undertaken too great work.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the Indian Society of Oriental Art, on Monday, 5th March 1917.***

SIR JOHN WOODROFFE AND GENTLEMEN,

I am indeed grateful to you, both for what you have said and for what you have done. During the five years we have been in Bengal it has always been a great delight both to my wife and to me to learn what we could about Indian Art. Your Society has helped us much. You kindly let me become a member of your Society almost as soon as I heard of its existence, and we have always looked forward most keenly to your exhibitions. I shall be very glad to continue to be one of your patrons and will certainly give you any assistance I can, for I most heartily desire to help Indian art and Indian industry in any way I can. I wish Lady Carmichael could have been present with me here to-day, but I am sorry to say that she is laid up in bed, though I trust she will soon be better. She asked me especially to say on her behalf how grateful she is to the members of the Oriental Art Society for the kindness which they have always shown to her.

I thank you too as I said just now for what you have done. You have not only read me a most pleasing address, but you have given it to me written out in a most interesting and beautiful form. I shall always treasure it, and I am sure my wife will be delighted to see Mr. Nunda Lall Bose's beautiful work on the boards between which you placed the address. I also thank you very much indeed on behalf of my wife, as well as for myself, for the collection of pictures which you have given to me. In giving us these I feel sure that you have prepared pleasure for many others besides ourselves, for we shall show them to many persons at Home, who, I am sure, will appreciate them. Once more I thank you.



***His Excellency's 'Speech at the Miniature Rifle Association Meeting,  
on 6th March 1917.***

GENERAL STRANGE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for giving me this opportunity before I leave Bengal of showing again my practical sympathy with the work of the Calcutta Miniature Rifle Association. You have reminded me of various occasions on which I was able to help you in attaining the objects of your Association, but I feel you have little cause for being thankful to me. You were anxious to meet a great public need. I gladly encouraged you by accepting the office of Patron, thus showing the public that I sympathized with your aims. You were in need of temporary quarters—I gladly placed your case before my fellow Trustees of the Victoria Memorial, and because it was a reasonable request, they gave you the facilities you desired. You asked me for a site for the permanent quarters—again I gladly placed your case before my own Government and before the Government of India, and again because your request was reasonable, it was granted. I feel therefore that you have succeeded not in any way through my help, but because your aims are laudable and your requests reasonable.

The very great value of efficiency, intelligence and power of initiative in the individual has been amply proved; when to these qualities is added good marksmanship, you have an ideal soldier.

We have now here in India to give the whole of our aid to our King-Emperor, and training in marksmanship will be a very important matter. Facilities are lacking in Bengal, and it will be a great boon to the many busy men who will have to do their training as soldiers here to have a range near at hand where they can practice.

***His Excellency's Speech at the War Loan Meeting at the Town Hall,  
on 7th March 1917.***

GENTLEMEN,

I asked you to come here because I want you to consider a matter of the gravest importance to the whole Empire; I am glad you have come and that you are going to consider it in a meeting worthy of Calcutta. Two years and seven months have passed since the war began; the greatest war the world has ever seen. We are all at one, we have all along been at one, in our belief as to what the end of the war will be; but none of us can say with certainty that the end is yet in sight. We are all at one—we have all along been at one, in our wish to do the best we can to help, if only we know how to help. India has loyally and nobly done whatever she has been asked to do. We have known all through that men and money were sorely needed. We, in Bengal, for reasons which we won't discuss now, could not send men into the field in thousands as other parts of India have done. We cannot do that yet, but we take facts as they are, and, though it would be untrue to say we are content, for we are not, we are proud of the way in which India as a whole has freely given her sons. But in the matter of money we, in Bengal, can do as we will; no other province, no other part of India need excel us in that, if we do but choose.

• There are many who think that in the matter of money India could and should do more than she has done.

Outstanding Indians have asserted this. Sir Gangadhar Chitnavis, as Sir William Meyer reminded us in his budget speech, moved as long ago as on the 8th of September 1914, a resolution which was carried in the Viceroy's Council to this effect—"That the people of India in addition to the military assistance now being afforded by India to the Empire would wish to share in the heavy financial burden now imposed by the war on the United Kingdom and request the Government of India to take this view into consideration and thus demonstrate the unity of India to the Empire." •

On the 24th of February 1915, Mr. M. S. Das moved and carried in the same Council a further resolution affirming the unswerving resolve of Indians to support the honour, dignity and prestige of the Empire, regardless of the sacrifices it may entail.

The Government of India were in sympathy with these resolutions, but until now circumstances which Sir William Meyer has explained hindered them from giving effect to them.

But the time has come at last when India is asked to make a direct contribution to the war. There can be no doubt what answer India will give. Bombay is the first to come forward; Bombay boasts, I am told, that she will lend at least five crores; all honour to her if she does! I have never been in Bombay, I shall be there now all too soon, but I can hardly believe that Calcutta men are less shrewd—I am sure they are not less loyal than Bombay men. Both Bengal and Bombay will do their best, I trust, in friendly rivalry. I expect you all read Sir William

Meyer's Budget Speech and have studied the terms of the War Loan; the whole of the cash subscription to the loan will be given to His Majesty's Government for the prosecution of the war. Its terms are very favourable to investors, they have been framed with the object of meeting every class, the rich men, the men of moderate means and the poor men. The loan must appeal to all who are looking for a first class investment with a high rate of interest and security which is undoubted. But it is not only, nor chiefly, on this that I rely, when I say the loan will be a success. I rely on your patriotism. Patriotism will make us do all we can to make the loan a success, if only we feel that the loan will help to win the war. I am not a soldier, I am not a financier, but our best soldiers, our ablest financiers agree in telling us that money is as great a factor in the winning of a war as men are. It seems to me that common-sense tells us that, if we but think things out: and I appeal to every one of you, rich or poor, to use your common-sense. If some of you are thinking that taxation might have been distributed a little differently, if some of you are wondering what the effect of a super-tax or of certain duties will be on Calcutta industries, common-sense will tell you that unless we win the war, and win it quickly, a time must come when there will be no excess profits out of which to pay super-tax, and but small demand for what Bengal can produce. If we realize this, as we surely must, we shall do our part. The Presidency banks are prepared to make advances at a low rate of interest to approved borrowers who wish to invest in the loan. I hope those of us who at this moment have no ready cash, but who can borrow in this way, will do so: for I feel sure that many of us who, for various reasons, are not able to shoulder a musket, can,—and if we can we should,—help to win the war by bringing out any money we have got or can raise.

The total obligations which India is undertaking will in any case amount to 100 million pounds sterling, and as much as possible of this should be raised here in the shape of loan.

There are three reasons which make this desirable.

In the first place, the money which the British Government gets from the loan will be new money, and will give them all the benefits which new money can give, instead of merely relieving them of future interest charges.

*Secondly*, the money obtained by the loan will for a time be of use to our own Government—to the Government of India—in helping to finance war expenditure which it must incur here on behalf of the British Government.

And *thirdly*,—and this is a point which I think I have a right to press strongly upon you,—the imagination of the people of Great Britain—the imagination of the people of every one of the Great British Self-Governing dominions will be fired by the result of the loan if that result is large. I am a Scotsman, I have lived most of my life in Great Britain, for some years I was a Governor in one of our King-Emperor's dominions, and for the last five and half years I have been in India. Wherever I have been, almost ever since I can remember,

it was my business, I thought it my duty, to try to understand the aspirations of the people amongst whom I was living, and to learn how they looked on the other peoples, and were looked on by the other peoples, who form our great Empire. I know what sympathy between different parts of the Empire can do. I know how much sympathy is needed; but I know too how hard it sometimes is to get sympathy—not because of any undue callousness, but merely because there is nothing to arrest attention. We, in India, have heard much of late about the angle of vision outside of this country, there are earnest men who hope for a great deal from a change in that angle of vision. I am one of those who believe that it can only be for the good of India and of all in India—Indians and Europeans alike—that the attention of our fellow-subjects in other lands should be drawn to India: and it is, because I think I have learned to know something of India's needs and because I do most honestly sympathize with India's aspirations, that I long to see the people of India make a large response to the call for this loan. A full response,—the fuller, the better,—will arrest the attention of the whole Empire, and will do more than anything else could do just now, to convince the mass of the British peoples,—who after all far more than any Government officials or individual politicians determine the direction and the time of reforms,—that India is willing and is able to be a real partner in the Empire.

In a few moments I shall call on other and abler speakers than I am to address you, but first I shall quote some words used by Mr. Lloyd George at the great war loan meeting in London, on the 11th January last. The Prime Minister said: "This is what I want to see: I want to see cheques hurtling through the air, fired from the city of London, from every city, town, village and hamlet throughout the land, fired straight into the entrenchments of the enemy. Every well-directed cheque, well loaded, properly primed, is a more formidable weapon of destruction than a 12-inch shell. \* \* \*. A big loan will shorten the war. It will help to save life; it will help to save the British Empire; it will help to save Europe; it will help to save civilization," and I would add a big Indian loan will help to make India's position in the Empire what India's best friends desire it to be.

***His Excellency's Speech in Bengali at the Sanskrit Convocation,  
on Thursday, 8th March 1917.***

**BHADRA MAHILĀ O BHADRA MAHODAYAGANA,**

Ei upādhi-vitaraner vārshika-sabhāya kayeka vatsarer parichaye āmi āpanādigake bandhu valiyā mane kari. Ei kārañci āpanādigar samakshe āmār mano-bhāva vāṅga-bhāshātei prakāśh karite sāhaśi hailām. Āmi dukkher sahita prakāśa karitecchi ye Sanskrita sikshār yerūpa samumtiati dekhivār icchā cchila āmi tāhā dekhiyā yāite pāriñām nā. Europé bhīshana samgrāma upasthita haoyāte aneka loka-hitakara-kāryer antarāya ghatitechhe. Yāhāi hañk Sanskrita-sikshār unnatir dina ye nikatavarti tāhā āmi visvāsa kari. London mahānagarite prāchya vidyār unnatir janya samprati Mahāmahima Samrat Mahodaya ye vidyālayer pratisthā kariyāchhen tāhā ihār prakrista nidarsana.

Āmi āsā kari Vāṅgadeser bhavishyat sāsana-kartā mahodayer sāsane Sanskrita sikshār yathochita unnati haive. Sanskrita bhāshā Bhārater gaurāver vastu. Ye sakala chhātra evaṃ adhyāpaka adhyana o adhyāpanādi dvārā Sanskrita sikshār śrī-vriddhi sādhanē tatpara rahiya chhen. āmi tanhādigake āntarika dhanya-vāda diyā vidāya grahana karitechhi.

[TRANSLATION.]

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I have learnt to look upon you as my friends by having come in contact with you for several years in this Annual Convocation of the Board of Sanskrit Examinations for conferring titles. For this I make bold to express my feelings before you in Bengalee. I am sorry it was not possible for me to see the advancement of Sanskrit study to the extent I desired. The great war in Europe has interfered with many works of public good. But I believe the day of advancement of Sanskrit learning is not far off. One notable sign of it is the opening of the School for Oriental Studies in London by His Majesty the King-Emperor of India. I hope the study of Sanskrit language is a glory of India. By offering most hearty thanks to the students and professors engaged in the advancement of Sanskrit learning by their study and teaching, I beg leave to bid you good-bye.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Calcutta Corporation Dinner, on  
Saturday, 10th March 1917.***

MR. GOODE, MY LORD CHIEF JUSTICE AND GENTLEMEN,

I felt honoured when some weeks ago you asked me to be your guest to-night, but I feel even more honoured now when I hear that this is the first time that the Corporation of Calcutta has entertained any Lieutenant-Governor or Governor of Bengal as you have entertained me. You have taken Lieutenant-Governors for trips on the river before now, you asked the late Sir Edward Baker to tea; but you have asked me to what you tell me you hope may be the first of a long series of annual municipal banquets; I assure you I highly appreciate your kindness. I hope, however, you do not expect me slavishly to follow the example of the Guildhall or to propound any policy or divulge any State Secrets. Some day such a custom may grow up, but I am enough of a canny Scotsman to be unwilling, needlessly and on the immediate eve of my departure, to say anything which might damage my reputation as a prophet if my successor should not happen to agree with me. Some one—I think it was my friend the Ditcher whose entertaining chronicle of Corporation meetings used, I am told, to be the first article read in the *Indian Planters' Gazette* by the Bihar Indigo Planters, whom I would hardly have suspected of a weakness for Local Municipal Self-Government—Pat Lovett—or some one stated the other day that Calcutta might be bored by hearing what you, gentlemen, think of me; but that it would be interested in hearing what I think of you. Perhaps he expected me to be candid rather than lenient; though on an occasion like this I think he could hardly expect me to speak the whole truth if the truth were unpalatable. As a matter of fact I hope that though I shall keep strictly to the narrow path of truth, my words will give you no cause to repent of having asked me to come here. I have been told that you are a loquacious body, and some people fear that an increase in your numbers may lead to too many speeches, but I am of those who believe in discussion even sometimes when those whose brilliancy makes them impatient of delay, think it idle and unprofitable, and what I have heard of the deliberations of your Corporation and what I have seen of its works, make me expect reason and good sense generally to continue to prevail in your decisions even after the new Bill has given more people a chance of talking. The Corporation of Calcutta has enjoyed the privilege of Self-Government based on the elective principle since 1876, it can look confidently to the future, knowing that it has behind it a record of sound, useful and honest work of which any Home municipality might well be proud.

• Little wonder then that I am grateful to you for drinking my health, and to those who have said such kind of things about me for their words. Little wonder if in thanking you I am myself tempted to be loquacious. Your Chairman has been a good friend to me here. Though unwell at the time and longing for a rest, he once cheerfully

gave up his leave to take up the work of my Private Secretary beneath the burden of which two strong able hard-working officers had in rapid succession broken down. I was grateful to Mr. Goode then and I have been grateful to him ever since.

Mr. Shirley Tremearne is literally the first Calcutta friend I made. He and I met long before I ever dreamt I should ever visit India except as a tourist, and it was from his talk and from the pages of *Capital* that I first learned to know that India contained other live things besides tigers, snakes, of which it is well to beware, and that there is good work done here by others besides the officers of the Indian Civil Service. Nawab Seraj-ul-Islam Khan Bahadur has been a Commissioner of the Corporation since the introduction of the elective principle in 1876; his public services have been appreciated and recognized by Government, and I congratulate him on being likely, while in full possession of his powers, to witness the further advance which your new Act will bring about. Rai Bahadur Radha Charan Pal also supported the toast of my health. He has staked out an almost hereditary claim in the Municipal Government of Calcutta, and as a stout supporter of what used to be called your "left" or popular party keeps fresh the memory and the doctrines of his distinguished father, Krista Das Pal. I am told that on,—so to speak,—his native heath the Rai Bahadur at times gives a free-rein to his eloquence than he can do in the more formal—or shall I say?—not more lively atmosphere of the Legislative Council, where a sand glass and bell, not to speak of a hide-bound president, are obstacles in the way of the ambitious speaker. I am outside the pale, I can only judge of your weighty deliberations from the brief and cold reports of the newspapers, and I confess that I have not always read these reports. I cannot, therefore, say much about your words; I judge you by your deeds; and on the eve of leaving India I am glad to bear witness to those deeds which, in spite of certain natural disadvantages, have placed Calcutta amongst the first cities of the Empire. I know that some of your most important works, your drainage and your water-supply for instance, were begun and,—as originally designed,—completed before 1876, but they have been vastly extended since then. Your water-supply—I am always interested in water-supply—for I believe that nothing will do more to cure some of the worst of the physical ills which hurt India than the provision of good drinking water. Your water-supply system is in its present form comparatively new. I forget when the great elevated reservoir at Tallah was made, but I remember that about this time five years ago—for it was on my birthday, and my birthday will again come round tomorrow week—Mr. Maddox took me to perform a ceremony which he told me would put the finishing touch at once on the tank and on a high steel chimney. I have heard it hinted that the scheme has failed and I think I have caught echoes of the word "waste"—a word which my own experience in other places teaches me is sometimes made use of by a conscientious Executive, upbraided with a failure to "make good."

I have myself at times grumbled at what seemed to me a shortage of water in Government House, but even if your supply is still not

so adequate and continuous as it might be, I feel sure you may congratulate yourselves on what you have done, for no one at any rate who realizes as much as I do how level a land Bengal is and who has heard as I have how much credit Government complacently accepts over such results as it brings about, can complain if you do so.

As regards your drainage arrangements, I heard, when I opened the Manicktollah Pumping Station for you a couple of years ago, that your drainage scheme dates back to the year in which I was myself born, but like myself it has considerably altered in 58 years! You still have large drainage problems ahead, but the same prudence and wisdom, with which the Corporation has faced its earlier difficulties, will help you to solve them.

I can personally vouch for the fact that your lighting arrangements are better than they were five years ago, and I have no doubt that this is because shortly before I came here, your lightings, originally carried on by the Gas Company, was taken over by the Corporation. As to your roads, I speak with some diffidence, for my intellect has not yet grasped all the advantages, which I presume the people of Calcutta get from your system of administration. I think I remember the Chamber of Commerce condemning, with equal severity your roads and those kept up by the Public Works Department on the maidan. I did not complain of the severity of the condemnation; if you did, perhaps you are pleased that so far as I know the Chamber has not yet found fault with the surface you have lately given us in Chowringhee.

I have seen Chowringhee in many stages of undress—sometimes, I regret to remind you, somewhat prolonged stages, but if you always dress her in the coat she now wears, I think Calcutta will soon forget that Chowringhee and the Corporation were for a time the target of many persons who love to fill the correspondence columns of the newspapers. Your Chairman says that for some years—years which I think must have synchronized with my term of office—you have only been experimenting, and we all know that experiments are often uncomfortable troublesome things.

I shall, perhaps, never know if asphaltum was an experiment. It might, perhaps, be an indiscretion on my part were I to ask—but I sincerely hope that it may prove to be the perfect road surface, for which you have been seeking during all the time I have been in India.

I have been able, without saying anything which I would not maintain in any company to congratulate you on many notable improvements which you have effected, but there is one municipal institution, which I frequently see and smell; for which I can say no good word and which I can hardly think any of you would care to defend—I mean one which I am content to call your municipal railway, though I understand the Customs Authorities won't allow it that title.

I know you would like to do away with it. Your ambition some day to make Circular Road the boulevard of Calcutta is a fine one. Alike on æsthetic and on sanitary grounds we all condemn the system



which involves that railway. I sincerely trust that before long your plans for a more rapid and less objectionable disposal of the city refuse will be carried out.

I am glad that during my term of office the Improvement Trust has been set at work. I have seen something of Northern Calcutta and I know how necessary for the health and convenience of the people, some new broad thoroughfares are. The work of the Trust is just now at a standstill, but I hope that before long the legal difficulties which have arisen, will be set at rest; and that the Trust will be able to resume its operations in a way which may satisfy all public-spirited men. I know that the work of such a body, armed with wide powers, must arouse much opposition; it cannot be expected that the ordinary citizen, where his own private interests clash with those of the public, will submit readily to any sacrifice, or that even where, as a fact, these interests do not clash, he will always be sufficiently cool and detached to recognize that they do not. Some hardship probably there must inevitably be, but if the work of the Trust is carried on in a just and sympathetic way, I believe the people of Calcutta, as they see fine streets open up in sanitary congested areas, and dark ill-ventilated houses making room for new buildings constructed on modern lines, will become reconciled to many things which they look on now as grievances and will,—when they see a new and more splendid Calcutta growing up on the ruins of the old,—bless the Act, which some of them still condemn. I was glad to read the other day in the address you have prepared for presentation to my successor that the Corporation and the Improvement Trust are working harmoniously together; it is well that this should be so, for the Corporation and the Trust are sister bodies,—one supplements the other,—the destinies of this great city are conjointly in the hands of both.

I should like to see Calcutta 20 years hence; perhaps I should not know it, with new Chowringhees traversing it from north to south and from east to west and with your sordid suburbs transformed into pleasing garden cities.

I will refer to one other point—the constitutional question—and I have done.

Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur, as we know, represents the popular, the progressive, party and he—very naturally and properly—looks ahead to the time, when the Corporation will enjoy a larger measure than it does now of autonomy based on the elective principle. I do not think my worst enemy would call me a reactionary, and I sympathize with the aspirations of the Rai Bahadur. Your present system of representative Government, combined with official control, has, on the whole, I think you will agree, worked well, but it has the qualities inherent in such a system and it is inevitable that the elected Commissioners should ask for something more. It would not be proper for me, as I lay down my office, to discuss such a question, but you will recognize that it is part of a greater question, in which all India is interested. That the advance you aspire to will some time be made, I have no doubt; that it will be a true advance seems to me certain, but I realize also that there is another side to the shield. I think that Self-Government, even if it is

not always the most efficient kind of Government, is a good thing, but there are many interests in Calcutta, which deserve to be consulted and I know that many of you have some misgiving about throwing over your present system too precipitately for a new and untried system, which at first may prove less efficient. But these are controversial questions on which it would not be proper—and on which you would not ask me—to pronounce opinions here. I carry away with me many impressions of Calcutta, which will be happy memories when I have left India; Calcutta has been a pleasant place to sojourn in, and I well understand the affection of those to whom it is a “city of adoption.” I thank you for your hospitality and I wish you—the Commissioners of the Corporation and its Executive—all success in the onerous and important duties you are carrying out.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Bengal Legislative Council,  
on 14th March 1917.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank those Honourable Members who have spoken about me. Their words were far kinder than I deserve, but I know they meant what they said; and I am truly grateful. I thank all of you for the way in which you accepted their words. When one has worked in close touch with friends for five years one cannot but feel sad when the work has to come to an end. You are my friends and I do indeed feel sad just now. When I came to Bengal to preside as Governor over my colleagues in Council five years ago I confess I felt anxious. I knew that the changes which brought me here were not wholly welcome to many of those over whom I was to rule, and I was not quite reassured by the thought that the Government which brought about those changes relied, as their Despatch to the Secretary of State showed, on the fact that by the help of a singularly able Civil Service a series of men of no conspicuous ability had been able to carry on a difficult Government in other places; for the same despatch led me to expect greater difficulties here than are found in other places; and I knew that some of those who most clearly foresaw difficulties doubted whether any good thing could come out of Madras. But it was not long before I learned that far more people in Bengal were willing to help me than I could have hoped for and that criticism is always meant to be fair and that anything which may seem harsh in it is due to want of full knowledge, not to ill-will.

It has often been pointed out that a Governor in India presiding over his Legislative Council has to do what in England and many other countries is done by two men. He has to act both as Speaker of his Council and also as head of the Executive Government; and I have myself pointed out, though I do not know that what I said was understood quite as I meant it to be, that a Governor is the only man here who can effectively play the part so often needed in the public interests played by the leader of the opposition in England. It is not always easy for one man to discharge such varying duties. I did not expect to satisfy every one at all times, but I have been fortunate in those who helped me. I thank my colleagues on the Executive Council who form so to speak my cabinet; among them there has only been one change. Sir William Duke,—to whom I owe as much gratitude for help as any man can owe to another left us, and was succeeded by Mr. Beatson Bell; but Mr. Lyon and Sir Shamsul Huda have worked with me all through. To each of them I desire to express my thanks.

I would like to take this chance too of publicly thanking all my officials for what they have done to make the burden of my labours light. I fear they must often have thought me slow-witted. It must be annoying to have a Governor asking tiresome questions about things he knows nothing of and wanting to have explanations of matters which to an expert seem obvious. When I read the questions put by some of you in the Council I occasionally wonder whether the Governor or the Additional Members of his Council give most trouble to Secretaries to

Government; and when I find how gladly the Secretaries suffer me, I feel that they must be very wise indeed.

I thank you all for the help you have given me in this house, for your ready acquiescence to my rulings and for the intelligent way in which you have done your work. No one can say that Legislative Councils have been a failure in India; most now admit that the Councils must as time goes on be treated with greater consideration and be given larger powers. I was struck when a very high official told me that he thought Councils have done one very good thing for India; they have, he said, helped to make officials more painstaking and more accurate. I had not thought of it in that light. I have looked on the Councils as institutions which will train unofficial Indians to use the extended power which they hope some day to have; and it has been my aim as your President to encourage you, when I had a chance, to so use the powers you now have, as to convince those who can secure future powers for you of your fitness to make good use of them.

I hope you have not found me too harsh in my rulings. I feel convinced that strict adherence to a proper procedure is most essential. I believe that you will find your best guide in the traditions of the British House of Commons and I am glad that I am to be succeeded by a man with considerable House of Commons experience, and who, therefore, can help you much.

You and I have not passed a great deal of legislation. I am sorry for this. But it was inevitable, you all know why. You all long for the cause to be soon removed; and I trust you will all do your best to induce the people of this Presidency to make full use of the opportunity which the issue of the War Loan will give them directly of taking their part in removing it. Most of our energy in the house has been taken up in asking or answering questions or in discussing resolutions. A somewhat profitless use of energy I believe some of you think it. But to that I demur. By questions and answering of questions by resolutions and the discussion of resolutions we get to know each other's minds. Government cannot do justice to itself, any more than it can do justice to the people over whom it is set, unless both the people know the mind of Government and Government knows the mind of the people: it is the duty of those of us who are officials, especially of my three colleagues and myself to explain what Government thinks and why we think it, but it is no less the duty of those of you who are not officials to let me and Government know what the people whom you represent think.

Some of you have told me that my administration will be remembered chiefly as the administration which enforced an act which is not a Bengal Act,—the Defence of India Act,—an Act which some of you say the people of Bengal do not like, and in the administration of which some of you find much to blame. I have spoken of that Act before, and I am going to speak of it again now. It is only fair to you and to my successor that I should. Some of you believe—I have heard you say so—that the greater proportion of those who have been dealt with under the Act have been proceeded against merely because police officers have suspicions about them.

I have told you before that that is not the case, and I tell you again that it is not the case. I have frequently asked those who make the statement to let me have the names of a few, half-a-dozen even, out of the large number—they say it is far the larger proportion of approximately 800 people dealt with under either the Defence of India Act or the Regulation III of 1818—whom they believe to be merely the victims of police suspicion. They have not so far sent me any names. But I am having every case re-examined and most carefully tabulated and 776 cases have been re-examined up to date. Of these—

One hundred and twenty-one have been implicated by their own confessions made here in Bengal.

That is quite apart from some others who have made confessions to authorities outside of Bengal. A further 229 are implicated by confessing associates whose statements are supported by corroborative evidence such as finds of arms or property known to have been stolen in dacoities or by documentary evidence or by their own conduct on arrest.

One hundred and sixty-one are implicated by the confessions of associates, generally two or more, but without such corroborative evidence as I have just mentioned.

One hundred and ninety-five are implicated by such corroborative evidence supported by statements made by informers.

And seventy have been implicated by evidence of informers coupled with evidence of association. Of these seventy, ten are accused by informers who have been murdered. This strengthens, to my mind at least, the case for believing that the information given was probably true.

In six other cases bombs were produced by the sources who gave the information.

In 21 more of the 70 cases what seems to be very strong evidence of association with known criminals is relied on, in addition, of course, to the informer's statement.

In 17 the men are accused though only on the evidence of informers of such dangerous crimes, that I do not think Government would be justified in giving up such control as it has of them.

In 16 more cases release has been granted or shortly will be granted. Releases from control under the Act since the beginning of this year amount to about 30.

These figures show that the number of cases in which there is not something very definite to justify detention is under 5 per cent. of the whole of cases dealt with, and in this number of less than 5 per cent. there is strong evidence of association in addition to informers' statements.

If what I have said is true, and I believe it is true, it is enough to show that there is no truth whatever in the accusation made against Government to the effect that we are dealing with these men merely on the suspicion of individual police officers.

I have only mentioned so far 776 cases. These 776 are the cases of which up to now a re-examination has been made, but the complete number of cases dealt with altogether under the Act and under the Regulations in Bengal is 791. It is fair that I should point this out though it is not very material, for the difference is satisfactorily accounted for. There are three cases examined before but not yet re-examined, I hardly expect to find anything wrong with these. The remainder are cases sent here by the Government of India with orders to intern or from other provinces, and of three men belonging to other provinces dealt with by other Governments.

There was one case in which a man was released just after the order issued as his was found to be a case of mistaken identity.

As showing that the information received by the police is not as unreliable as some of our critics tell us it is, I would like to point out to you that such information has led to 54 finds of arms and ammunition. Forty-seven of these were finds of pistols or pistol cartridges. In 20 of these cases the arms found have been identified as the stolen property of private persons who had complained of their loss by thefts or dacoities in which people of the *Bhadrolok* class were suspected at the time the losses occurred. It must, I think, strike you as significant that 14 of the persons dealt with were men actually seen shadowing police officers, and that in five cases the shadowing was followed by actual murder.

Five of those whom we have dealt with, while in custody, threatened police officers with death, and three threatened witnesses with death.

Some of you have told me you admit that the crimes exist; you even admit that Government may be right in its ideas as to who the criminals are, but you deny that the Defence of India Act has been of any use. I do not agree with you and I will tell you why. The Defence of India Act was passed in August 1914, but the information obtained by means of the Act relates in some instances to crimes which were committed before the passing of the Act. We may take, roughly speaking, the 1st January 1914 as the date on which we began to be able to derive any benefit from disclosures made owing to the Defence of India Act. Before that date there were 107 outrages of the kind we are considering. Some of the men concerned in 35 of these were convicted. In a fair proportion of cases approvers or informers have mentioned the names of men who have subsequently been dealt with under the Defence of India Act when found by Government to be reasonably suspected of complicity in other crimes, but no clue whatever has been found in 49 out of the 107 cases.

Since January 1914 down to the middle of last month there have been 67 outrages—convictions have been obtained against men concerned in eight of these. Confessions naming some at least of the perpetrators have been made about 42 other cases, and there is other evidence making similar disclosures in all but eight of the remainder. I unfortunately must not disclose names, but I can assure you that it is not at all a large proportion of those who have committed outrages since January 1914 to whose identity the police have no clue. The total number of

absconder's is not large; that of those whose names are indefinitely known is very small indeed. But these numbers include some very dangerous men, and until these very dangerous men are under our control, it would be most unwise for Government to deal as leniently as I would like with other men who are mere tools—sometimes perhaps tools who have no idea to what evil purpose they themselves are being put. We cannot let our care slacken while there are men uncaught, who we believe have been concerned in two or in some cases even more—six in one case—murders. The Defence of India Act is what has helped us. I am only saying what I believe to be absolutely true when I say that the Defence of India Act has helped to defend the young educated men of Bengal as nothing else has defended them—not their own fathers—not their teachers for they were ignorant; not their associates, nor they themselves for they were blind to the danger, against a mean criminal organization which, while it pretends to aim at freeing India from a foreign tyranny, is doing a great deal to bring Bengal into a hatred which she does not deserve from her fellow provinces in India and which can only result in postponing of reforms which will benefit not Bengal only, but the whole of India.

I have said enough, gentlemen, on this subject. I would only once more appeal to you—as I have appealed to you before—not to disregard facts.

There is much that India needs; you can all of you help her to get it. Those of you who are Indians have every reason to try and get it; and you will, I honestly believe, get it more surely with the help of my countrymen than you can do alone. The whole British Empire has its eye on you as it never had before. If I may give you one parting word of counsel it is this—do not refuse—merely because of some hard things which have been said or even of some hard things which have been done, to let your case be well looked into by men who are Britons by blood, but who do not live in the British Islands. There is ignorance—crass ignorance if you will about each other both in India and in the Colonies. I have tried to learn, I think I have learned something of the way in which the people of the Overseas Dominions look on human affairs, and I think I know something of your attitude. You pay me the compliment sometimes of telling me that I understand quicker than many of my fellow-countrymen do what the true aims of Indians are. Sometimes I hope I do, but if I do so at all, it is because I learned in Australia to appreciate an attitude of mind towards England which had I never been there I should never have known, and which has often been recalled to me in conversation with your most earnest thinkers here.

To those of you who are officials I know I need say little. It is your proud boast that your every action here is meant to benefit the people of the land in which you serve. If you do but truly realize what the needs of the people are, your actions will win their own reward. I believe you could get more help than you do from the people in realizing this, and it is largely because I want you to get more help that I look forward to extension of education and of Local Self-Government. Finally, I would ask those of you who are not Indians and who are not officials, to think of your responsibilities. It is you and those of your

class who went before you who have made India what she is—the most valued dependency of the British Empire, and, one on which other Empires look with longing eyes. You far more than any Government officials have developed Calcutta and with Calcutta what makes most for stability in India; and it is with you—far more than with any Government officials that the future of Bengal rests. No one can say that you have not given thought to what you are doing here, no one can accuse you of idleness or of want of intelligence, but if you look to the future—if you watch the tendency of events, and the growth of thought among the people round you—I do think you must feel that problems are springing up the solution of which must affect you and your successors, according as you take or do not take a share in their solution. I would appeal to you to do your best to understand what is going on around you. As Governor I have been helped by all classes. I am grateful to all for their help. But this I venture to say—Indians would have helped me more if they had shown me that they were more closely united in their aspirations, and Englishmen would have helped me more if they had shown me better that they knew what Indian aspirations are. I have been here during an interesting time, I leave you just when a still more interesting time is beginning. It has been my great object while here to try and induce all to work together and to see each other's point of view. How far I have succeeded I may never know, but this I do know that without mutual understanding among all whose interests lie in Bengal, Bengal cannot take, as I sincerely trust she may, the leading part in the political and industrial progress of India.

Gentlemen, I have said enough—I now merely wish you—and in doing so, I avail myself of a President's privilege against which there is no appeal to wish you on behalf of my wife as well as of myself—good-bye.



***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the British Indian Association, on 17th March 1917.***

MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR, MAHARAJAS, RAJAS AND GENTLEMEN,

I sincerely thank you for coming here this morning to present me with a farewell address. The British Indian Association, as the premier Indian Association in Bengal, was among the first of the public bodies to welcome me on my arrival: between those expressions of welcome and our ceremony of this morning there lies an interval of five years—an interval infinitely short in the development of a nation, but long in the life of one who has passed middle age. During these years I have visited every district in Bengal, and during these visits I have been royally entertained by many of you, and—what is of more value—I have made friendships among you which I trust will last long after I leave this country.

From the first I had at any rate one bond of sympathy with you: I myself am a landholder, and I can appreciate some of your difficulties and some of your responsibilities. It is mainly from you and from others such as you that a new Governor can learn the needs of rural India, and it is to you that he looks for advice as to how he can best help the great majority of those placed under his rule.

I thank you for your kindly reference to the administration of Bengal during the past five years. As I said in Council the other day we had to begin by facing special difficulties due to administrative changes which were not welcomed by all who were affected by them. Those special difficulties have to a large extent been got rid of, but Bengal has still great problems to solve, and she always will have great problems to solve—for fresh ones must spring up everyday in any truly live community.

The financial stringency of the last two and half years has delayed more than one measure which will, I hope, some day do much good. Without money Government cannot carry out those changes in district administration of which I have often spoken in the country and about which there has been a good deal of healthy criticism; much of it, at first especially, hostile to Government. I believe that those changes will do good, not only or chiefly because they will put our officers in a better position to do their duty, but because they will help the people to help themselves, and to do their duty too. I regret that want of money has brought about their delay. I regret that want of money made it impossible even to consider many things connected with education, with river communications, with the health of the people and with their prospect of growing richer. I regret that I have done so little, but I hope my successor may be more fortunate; I hope he may have better opportunities than I have had, and that you will help him to make full use of them.

I trust I am sincere in my sympathy for the welfare and advancement of the people and in my desire to maintain the best tradition of British justice, but that is not enough; sympathy and

good-will alone cannot solve great problems: great problems can only be solved by hard steady work pursued in an honest and fearless spirit of enquiry after truth: and such work must be spread over many years.

Much of the work needed must be done by Government; but much of it also must be done by the people themselves; you know the needs of your country; you are educated and you are enlightened enough to see that some of the things, which your less educated and less enlightened fellow-countrymen do not yet recognize as even desirable, are sorely needed indeed.

Better water-supply and better sanitation, I believe you all feel the value of these; you know that they would do much for your tenants and for the welfare of Bengal generally. You know—what it took me some time to realize—how careless, how apathetic about these matters are many of the very people who would gain most, if tanks were cleaned, if pollution was removed, if proper steps were taken to prevent the accumulation of rubbish—all comparatively simple things in themselves—the gain would be great. I have often discussed such matters with some of you and I have tried to encourage you to lend a helping hand. I take this opportunity of thanking those of you who have helped, and I earnestly beg you all to consider whether you cannot help even more.

I am glad that you believe that the policy of Government in regard to the scourge of malaria during the last five years has been a sound policy. Not much has been done as yet, but I believe Dr. Bentley's work is in the right direction. I am glad too that a little progress has been made towards entrusting the people with greater powers of Self-Government. I have often commended the report of the Bengal District Administration Committee to your careful study; I referred, a moment ago, to my desire to carry out some of its recommendations. I refer to it again, for I believe the solution of our problem of Village Self-Government will best be found on the lines laid down by Sir Edward Levinge's Committee.

I will not say much to you now about the fight with what you call the terrorist movement: during the last five years I have tried to identify myself with Bengal, and like you I feel infinite sorrow and humiliation that such a movement should cast a shadow on the fair fame of the province. It is our duty to restrain with a firm hand whatever needs restraint, and it is our duty to enquire with an open mind into the causes which have led to discontent. Cause there must be for all political movements, and it is our duty where we can to modify things so that movement may be on the true lines of progress. You, the great landlords and nobles, have better means than any one,—if you will but use them,—of judging and of advising Government as to this. Do not hesitate to advise Government about matters merely because they seem to be small or trivial, the smallest thing may start a movement hard to check if it be once begun, and we ought always to keep in mind the idea never better expressed than by Aristotle in words which, as I may remind you, Sir Bamfylde

Fuller,—who was a friend of many of you,—suggested should be inscribed on the walls of Indian Council Chamber—

*Γίγνονται μὲν οὖν δι' στάσεις οὐ περὶ μικρῶν ἀλλ' ἐκ μικρῶν.*

“Revolutions arise not about trifles but out of trifles.”

There is only one other point to which I shall now specially refer. You know that I have encouraged you in connection with the organization of the Bengal Ambulance Corps, and the Bengali Double Company. I most sincerely wish that I could have seen the Company increased to a Battalion before I left Bengal, and I hope most sincerely that you will do all you can to achieve this, both by encouraging those who can to serve and by helping to raise the considerable sum needed to enable them to do so.

I thank you for your kindly reference to Lady Carmichael and to her work among the women of Bengal. What she has done has indeed been for her a labour of love, and none the less but perhaps all the more for that reason it will, I hope, go on bearing fruit long after she has left you.

Gentlemen, once more I thank you most sincerely for what you have done for me and for my Government both as an Association and each in your individual capacity, and I thank you too most warmly for the personal friendship you have extended to my wife and to myself.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the Central National Muhammadan Association, on 17th March 1917.***

NAWAB ABDUL JABBAR AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for coming here to bid me farewell, and I thank you for what you have said about my administration of this Presidency from the Muhammadan point of view.

As a rule men chosen to act as Governors in India must necessarily come here unacquainted with the special problems to which the existence, side by side, of the two great communities, Hindu and Muhammadan, gives rise, and it is only by patient study that they can hope to understand these problems. In my own case the difficulty was to some extent enhanced by the administrative changes made in 1912. I hope I did my best, and I gratefully acknowledge the help which I received. Soon after I arrived here I formed a friendship with that large-souled and generous nobleman—the Nawab Sir Salimullah Bahadur—whose loss we so greatly deplore. He guided me in many ways, by his sound common-sense and by his bluntness of expression which so often arrested my attention and made me think. Many others of you have also helped me at different times, and I have greatly appreciated the long talks I have had with your respected President Nawab Abdul Jabbar and with Nawab Seraj-ul-Islam.

But besides these advantages I have had another the value of which I cannot overestimate. I have had near me as my colleague throughout five years the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Syed Shamsul Huda, K.C.I.E. At my Council Board, the Nawab Sahib has always been a fearless critic of Government measures and though perfectly fair to all, a strong advocate of Muhammadan interests. But not only has he been a valued colleague, he has also been to me a most faithful and sympathetic friend, ever ready to help me and to teach me to understand the varied problems of Bengal from the point of view of those whom he represents; especially throughout these last two years and-a-half when the action of Turkey has sorely torn the feelings of so many Muhammadans—feelings with which I have the profoundest sympathy—the presence of the Nawab Sir Syed Shamsul Huda at my elbow has been of immeasurable value to me.

I assure you that I appreciate and admire the steadfast loyalty of your community. That loyalty has enabled Government to feel confident that the difficulties of a peculiarly difficult time will be overcome, and it is a loyalty which I feel sure will never be forgotten. My Government have improved your position: we have done more for you than any other Government ever did, in giving to Muhammadans more equal opportunity for education and a larger and farer share of such posts as they have fitted themselves for. You are thankful for this; but in your gratitude you wisely continue to look for more.

I was not wholly sorry to hear you say that the Muhammadans in Bengal have still some grievances; for no community which is thoroughly satisfied with everything as it exists will ever make much

progress, and it is only in the progress of communities that we can hope for advancement of the province. You have well described the duty of the Governor of Bengal as one of "moulding and directing the united life of its peoples into healthy and progressive channels." It has been my earnest desire to carry out that duty, and I hope I have not been quite unsuccessful in doing so, but I know well that any success which I have achieved has been due to the loyal support of the people over whom I have the honour to be placed.

As time goes on I trust that the spread of education and the raising of the common standard of living may make the life of the people of Bengal a more united one than in some ways it has hitherto been; an union of aim among all communities and a determination to work together will more than most things make it easier for future Governors, not only to point out the healthy and progressive channels of which you spoke, but to assist the people in making full use of them.

Once more I thank you, gentlemen, for your good wishes for me and for Lady Carmichael and I wish you all farewell.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the Marwari Association, on 17th March 1917.***

RAI HARIRAM GOENKA BAHADUR AND GENTLEMEN,

I was not long in Calcutta before I heard of the importance of the Marwari community and of the great services which its members have rendered in building up the commercial prosperity of the city: nor was I long in learning how wisely they have shown their attachment to the land of their adoption by supporting charitable and philanthropic objects. I have visited your hospital, I laid the foundation-stone of the educational institution you have erected for the instruction of your boys; and I have had experience of your charities in many other channels. It has been a great satisfaction to me to find that many of you are liberally supporting Lady Carmichael's Bengal Women's War Fund. The good works of your President are widely known, not only in Bengal and in his ancestral home in Rajputana, but also in Puri, in Orissa and in Deoghur in Bihar. I was delighted when he was appointed Sheriff of Calcutta, for that showed that the importance of your community and the public spirit of your President was recognized by the Viceroy.

I sympathize with you in your prayers for the early victory of the Allied Armies. You are business-men and bankers, and no one can realize better than you do the need for supporting the King-Emperor not only with men, but also with money. Your community may not be able to give men, but I feel confident that you will lend whatever money you can—especially as the attractions offering by way of return are so generous, and as lending it will obviously help to bring nearer the peace we all so much long for.

I thank you, gentlemen, for the good wishes you express for the future happiness and prosperity of myself and Lady Carmichael. I can promise you that neither she nor I will ever forget Bengal and all that Bengal has been to us; and it is in full conviction of that that I now wish you good-bye.

***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the Bengal Landholders' Association, on 17th March 1917.***

MAHARAJA BAHADUR, RAJA SAHIBS AND GENTLEMEN,

That day five years ago to which you refer is indelibly imprinted on my memory. I had been called from Madras to administer your newly constituted Presidency as its Governor, and I had just arrived in Calcutta. I had seen nothing of Bengal,—nothing of her industries,—except a little of the jungles of the Sundarbans, some of the palm trees of the 24-Parganas and of Midnapore and the chimneys of the jute mills, as I sailed up the Hooghly. I knew there were many great problems to be faced, but I knew little of the facts which underlay those problems. The sympathetic reception which you and other public bodies accorded me greatly encouraged me, and did much to strengthen me.

During these five years I have visited every district in the Presidency and I have been the guest of several members of your Association. I have thus learned to look at things to some extent with your eyes, and at the same time I have had opportunities of trying to let you see things with my eyes. I venture to hope that this mutual interchange of our points of view was of some help to you, as it certainly was of very great help to me.

In this country where the cultivators, who form so large a proportion of the people, have not as yet been given an education which fits them to express opinions on public questions, the Governor of the Province must needs look almost wholly to the landlords and tenure-holders for that help and advice in rural matters, which he would like to get also from direct representatives of the cultivators themselves. This adds greatly to the responsibility which falls upon the shoulders of your Association—for the interest of the cultivators and the interests of those who receive rents are not always the same, and it is important that you should understand and appreciate the point of view of the cultivators so that in placing your own views before the Governor you may be able to show him where they are the same as and where they differ from those of your tenants. To be able to do this well, it is necessary that you should avoid the disadvantages under which an absentee landlord must everywhere labour, for in no country can a landlord do full justice to the needs and to the aspirations of his tenants, unless he frequently resides amongst them. I foresee that at no distant date certain tenancy legislation will be called for in Bengal, and to a large extent the fairness of such legislation both to landlord and to tenant will depend on the advice which you give to Government. It will be your duty to advise and to help Government and my successor, therefore I am glad to feel sure that you will help my successor and will advise him in the same honest and straightforward manner in which you have advised me.

I thank you for the kind words you have said regarding my administration. The advancement of a great province is a slow

process; it is difficult for us to say exactly what advance has been made during this short period, but like you I feel convinced that an advance has been made, though it is only too true that my years of office have been clouded by the political crime to which you refer. I have tried elsewhere to meet the criticism of my administration of the Defence of India Act, as I have tried to meet the criticism of all other public actions for which I and my Government have been responsible by taking the people into my confidence to the utmost that I am able, and by placing before them the facts upon which my judgments have been formed, believing that any difference in our judgment is not due to inherent difference in character or temperament, but rather to want of complete knowledge of facts. From conversation with individuals I know that my policy in this respect has at times—often I would fain think—been successful. We have one common aim in view to improve the position of Bengal as an integral part of the Empire, and to secure the welfare of her peoples; and where honest differences of opinion have arisen between us, these have, I feel sure, been mainly due to a difference in the extent to which facts were known to us.

I thank you for your kind reference to my wife. She and I have both of us made many personal friends in Bengal, friends who will not soon be forgotten. Both she and I thank you warmly for your good wishes, we reciprocate these good wishes, and for her as well as for myself I now regretfully bid you farewell.



***His Excellency's Reply to the Address presented by the Bengal  
Presidency Moslem League, on 17th March 1917.***

GENTLEMEN OF THE BENGAL PRESIDENCY MOSLEM LEAGUE,

I thank you for having presented me with this address on behalf of yourselves and of the Muhammadan community of Bengal whom you represent.

The problem which faced me on my arrival in this Presidency on the 1st April 1912 was indeed a difficult one—how difficult I did not myself then fully realize. A large number of the members of the Muhammadan community had not welcomed the administrative changes which were announced at the Durbar in 1911, and the arrival of an unknown Governor, who was to take up his head-quarters in Calcutta in the place of a Lieutenant-Governor known and trusted by all and with his head-quarters in the old Muhammadan capital of Dacca, aroused little or no enthusiasm. At best I could only expect from them a respectful and possibly reluctant tolerance. That tolerance you gave me, it soon became less reluctant, I am glad to think that I can now claim that in many things I have your support. I am very grateful to hear from you to-day that you have not looked on my efforts to overcome our difficulties and to win your confidence as altogether vain. Such success, as I have achieved, I attribute largely to the loyal spirit of your leaders who determined from the first to accept the wishes of His Majesty the King as being calculated for the good of Bengal as a whole and to help the new Governor whenever they conscientiously could. I have myself gone to stay twice each year in our eastern capital, and by annually making it the head-quarters of my Government for two months. I have tried to show that I recognize the importance of the historic city of Dacca and realize the value to the Governor of a better opportunity for learning the needs of the eastern parts of the Presidency, than a mere transient visit can give. I have tried also to encourage you to the utmost in what I felt were your legitimate aspirations.

The connection of the Muhammadan community with this province goes back for nearly 750 years. During these seven centuries and-a-half the community has experienced many vicissitudes, the reasons for which I need not recapitulate. Suffice to say that the history of the community and its position in Bengal, where the number of Muhammadans is greater than that of any other community, entitle it to respect and to sympathy at the hands of the Government. That the influence of your community is not now commensurate with your numbers is largely due to its failure to adapt itself to present conditions: but by increased attention to education and by well-directed endeavour you are quickly correcting this mistake. I wish it had been possible for me to have done more for the education of your young men: I had great hopes that before I left Bengal the Dacca University would have been in a sufficiently forward position to afford you greater facilities. The delay in carrying out that project has caused me keen disappointment, but at the same time I am bound to say that I think

the delay was, under all the circumstances, unavoidable: I only hope that in the time of my successor large opportunities for Islamic studies,—opportunities founded on a surer basis than has up to now been possible—will be provided.

• In all my endeavours to promote the welfare and to meet the legitimate desires of your community I have been ably advised by my colleague, the Hon'ble Nawab Sir Syed Shamsul Huda: and I am glad to take this opportunity to testify to the fact that in my judgment the Muhammadan community in Bengal could have had no more sympathetic or better advocate than he has been. My judgment in this matter is based upon facts many of which are and can only be known to me personally; you have accepted my judgment in some other matters and I hope will accept it in this. The Nawab Sahib has been loyal to all the people of Bengal, he has never forgotten the claims of his community, he has strongly urged them whenever he fairly could, but he has also been fair to others, and I do not remember ever to have known him to refuse to listen carefully to all that was put forward on behalf of any one. He has pointed to weaknesses where there were weaknesses in an argument, but he has always been willing to admit facts; and he has been anxious to treat impartially the claims of all those other communities for whom as much as for your own, I was bound to ask the consideration of my colleagues. I rejoice to think that the services of a man of such sound judgment are not to be lost to the State and I feel confident that the Nawab Sahib will richly adorn the Bench of the Calcutta High Court.

I am grateful to you, gentlemen, for coming here this morning; I have had a very kind letter from your President, Nawab Syed Nawab Ali Chowdhury, bidding me farewell and expressing his regret at not being able to be here to-day. I too regret his absence for I would like to have thanked him personally for the help he has so often given me. On behalf both of my wife and of myself I thank you for your prayers for our peace, our happiness and our continued prosperity, and I now bid you good-bye.